Justice for the Worker
Constructive Cooperation
and
A Square Deal for the Employer

THE LABOR NEWS

CO-OPERATION
Between Wage Earner and
Local Business Interests
Brings Community
Prosperity

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

VOL. 1, NO. 8 AUGUSTA, MAINE, TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1933 PRICE 5 CENTS

HEAD OF GREAT BANKING CONCERN CONFIRMS LABOR'S EXPOSE AT SENATE HEARING

Winthrop W. Aldrich, President of the World's Largest Commercial Bank, Dramatically Vindicates John P. Frey's Charges Before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Offers Plan for Banking Reform to Abolish Evil Hook-ups and Iron-Clad Control Exposed by Frey in Sensational Testimony Before Committee, and Later Attacked by Senator Norris in Senate.

New York City, Mar. 12 (ILNS).—Smashing confirmation of every charge made by John P. Frey, representing labor, in his detailed and voluminous attack on banking domination of industry has just come from Winthrop W. Aldrich, chairman of the governing board and president of the Chase National Bank, the largest commercial bank in the world.

Seldom has such complete vindication of a labor charge come with such dramatic swiftness and completeness.

Aldrich has just advanced a plan for banking reform in which he suggests, almost point by point, abolishing the evil hook-ups and iron-clad control exposed by Frey in his sensational testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee and later attacked by Senator Norris in the Senate.

Aldrich would completely divorce commercial banking and investment banking, put a noose of restrictions around the operations of such great international bankers as J. P. Morgan and others, and in general cut away the lines that connect the two kinds of banking in what has come to be a vast machine for milking American industry and labor. He also would include all commercial banks in the Federal Reserve system.

Wall Street Alliances

Under the Aldrich plan the alliances now existing between the large private banking houses and the commercial banks would be cut. He announces that actual steps already have been taken to cut the ties between the Chase National and the Chase Harris-Forbes Company, the Chase National's agency for distribution of stocks and bonds. Aldrich would prevent dealing in bonds by private banks which deal in securities.

The Morgan banking picture was one of the most striking elements in the picture presented by Frey. The **Aldrich plan would take the Morgan directors out of commercial banks, striking a tremendous blow at the Morgan financial power over banks and consequently over the industries to which these commercial banks make loans.** The Morgan house would be deprived of its deposit business unless it abandoned its securities deals and unless it agreed to make public such information as commercial banks are compelled to make public, which it does not now have to do.

Indictment Now Confirmed

Frey, after more than a year of patient and careful work, went before the Senate committee with evidence that has not been impeached in the slightest detail. He took to the committee an appalling accumulation of evidence showing the tremendous extent to which the great private banking houses of New York dominate American industry and dictate industry's policies, including wage policies. It was such an indictment as has been offered in relation to American industrial and financial affairs. He attacked a colossus. **Aldrich, one of the most powerful and powerful figures in that indicted financial machine, has now** (Continued on Page 8)

FORMER GOVERNOR SMITH STRONG FOR SOVIET RECOGNITION; SAYS "CUT OUT HYPOCRITICAL UNDERCOVER STUFF!"

Declares This Country Can Recognize Soviet Russia Without Subscribing to Its Principles—Scores Financiers, Who, While Holding Secret Banquet With Commercial Representatives of Russia, Appear Hostile to Everything Russian—Entertains No Fears Concerning Communism as the Principle is Repugnant to Americans.

By CLAUDE G. BOWERS, in Washington Times

Alfred E. Smith said some good things before the Senate committee in Washington, but nothing that was said there will put than his views on the recognition of Russia. This is long overdue. It has now been more than 14 years since the present government was established. There was ample justification for our failure to accord recognition at once. It could be justified for even two years. There is no justification in precedent, with which we are familiar, for a refusal to recognize a reality for 14 years.

Some people appear to think that to accord recognition is to subscribe in some manner to the theories of Soviet Russia. That is absurd. It is manifestly absurd, for these people would be hard put to explain on their theory why we had diplomatic relations with Romanoff Russia. Did we subscribe to that autocracy? There is a dictatorship in Hungary, and we have diplomatic relations with her. Does that mean we favor a dictatorial form of government? We have diplomatic relations with Italy and have no thought of breaking off relations with Germany because of the triumph of Hitler. Does that mean that we subscribe to Fascism?

Of course it means nothing of the sort. It is none of our business what form of government another nation may prefer to have. If we are in business we do not refuse to send out salesmen to a prospective buyer because we do not like his views on morals or politics.

George Washington did not care much for the action of the French in putting their King aside and destroying the monarchy. But when a change in the form of government was effected by the Revolution it never occurred

(Continued on Page 5)

A. F. OF L. UNEMPLOYMENT ESTIMATE SHOWS INCREASE OF 800,000 IN FEBRUARY OVER JANUARY FIGURES, SAYS MONTHLY SURVEY

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, issued the following statement on unemployment based on special reports from affiliated organizations:

In the midst of the national bank crisis we must not let unemployment be crowded into the background. The American Federation of Labor estimate based on government figures, shows an increase of 800,000 in the number without work from December to January. In January 12,700,000 were unemployed and judging from trade union reports for February, the number out of work has not decreased since.

This is a new high watermark for unemployment in the depression and represents an increase of 2,400,000 since January of 1932.

"Unquestionably the bank crisis will increase unemployment. People have had to cut their buying to the lowest possible limit; this means fewer sales, and salesmen will be laid off; fewer orders for factories, and factory workers will lose their jobs. In addition, thousands of middlemen who were expecting to place orders will wait until conditions are more settled, cutting industrial activity still further. Jobs and pay will be reduced all along the line.

"When the crisis is over, these workers will not find their employers nearly so ready to take them back as they were to lay them off. Added to our present 12,700,000 unemployed will be those newly unemployed, another year without income, unable to buy, deprived of the chance to support themselves, outlawed from the normal life of a self-respecting member of society.

Business cannot recover until these unemployed go back to work by hundreds of thousands. Our nation cannot recover its courage or its spirit while they are crushed by the humiliation of forced dependence. They must be restored to their proper place of partnership in our national enterprise. We look to the administration to make this its next achievement. The largest increase in unemployment from December to January was due to the lay-offs in retail stores after the Christmas trade. They were worse this year than usual. In wholesale and retail trade, 430,000 lost their jobs in January and 198,000 in manufacturing; the winter season took a further toll of 65,000 jobs in building and road making, and 56,000 on farms; mines laid off 32,000 and a number of other minor lay-offs brought the total unemployment increase to 800,000. This is no greater than the normal seasonal increase, but it means just so many more who must be fed, clothed and housed while deprived of the opportunity to produce wealth to earn their own way.

ONLY WAY TO SETTLE CUT-THROAT COMPETITION IS TO ENACT MINIMUM WAGE LEGISLATION, SAYS F. J. GORMAN

Textile Workers' Vice President Makes Strong Plea in Rhode Island Legislature, Stating That This Will Compel Sweat-Shop Employers to Maintain Decent Wage Standards—Offers Means for Curing Sick Industry.

Senate Bill 57, which provides for measure will protect legitimate industry, and fair employers by penalising the enactment of a minimum wage law in Rhode Island similar to that which is pending in the Massachusetts Legislature, was argued at a hearing held last week, during which Frank J. Gorman, vice president of the United Textile Workers of America, brought forcibly to the attention of the committee the necessity for immediate action as a means for what he strongly contended for as a means for eliminating cut-throat competition and for curing a sick industry.

Mr. Gorman said, in part:

"Labor urges the passage of Senate Bill 57. We believe that the principle involved will command the support of every fair-minded person in the State. The purpose of the act is well defined in the title: 'An Act to provide for the investigation and study of wages of women and minors employed in trade and industry in the State of Rhode Island and for the determination and establishment of Minimum Wage Standards for such workers, and for the purpose of preventing unfair and oppressive exploitation of such workers, and for other purposes.'

"This object in itself is sufficient reason for the passage of the Act, but if we have amongst us those who refuse to consider the measure from the standpoint of human values, we desire to submit two so-called practical reasons why it should be enacted into law. The first is the most dangerous evil facing industry today, that of cut-throat and unfair competition. This

FRANCIS J. GORMAN

constructive contribution to restoration and stability.

"In support of this contention, I bring testimony of leading industrialists and reputable economists. It is the earnest of unfair competition that is crushing not only labor, but destroying industry and profits. The same (Continued on Page 8)

President Roosevelt Asks Congress For Legalized Beer Bill

True to his pledge and promise at the Chicago National Democratic Convention, that "from this hour, light is doubled," President Roosevelt has just submitted to the House of Representatives a bill for the modification of the Volstead law so as to provide for the legalized sale of beer and other alcoholic beverages of a character constitutionally permissible.

Congress will do the rest, and right speedily. Most of the die-hards have seen the light and have reluctantly caved in. Here is the message:

"I recommend to the Congress the passage of legislation for the immediate modification of the Volstead Act, in order to legalize the manufacture and sale of beer and other beverages of such alcoholic content as is permissible under the Constitution; and to provide through such manufacture and sale by substantial taxes, a proper and much-needed revenue for the Government.

"I deem action at this time to be of the highest importance."

The passage of the legislation recommended, which would naturally within the power of the Congress, will mean an estimated revenue of $150,000,000 a year to the unbalanced Treasury not to mention the great stimulating effect on railroad shipments, the grain market, coal mines and all the other allied and connecting industries, in the manufacture, sale and distribution of legalized beer.

It will also be a sign to the world that the United States is, at last, regaining legislative sanity.

Old Age Pension System Advocated on Humane Grounds

An interesting resume of the development of the enactment of the Old Age Pension law is put forth in a recent communication of Representative Benjamin S. Stern, of Augusta, which appeared in detail in the Portland Evening News. Mr. Stern states that this particular piece of legislation is very popular in Maine and is a marked improvement over old-time methods of caring for the poor at the public expense.

He points out that already some 19 States have adopted Old Age Pension systems in the interest of humanity for the helpless. It has also been shown that this system really saves the State's money when compared with the cost of maintaining poorhouses with their costly administration and upkeep.

Mr. Stern tells of the work which was done by a recess committee appointed by the Governor and Council to study the question, and significantly points out that there are at present 100 almshouses in Maine, "the largest number of any State except Massachusetts." These institutions contain only a total of 701 inmates. The total value of property invested is $1,200,000. The maintenance cost per inmate is $503 per year. Adding five per cent interest to the investment, it would bring the cost per inmate up to $600 per annum.

Of these 100 almshouses, 62 of them have less than 10 inmates each. With the property investment taken into account this would amount to about $850 per year per person, for those institutions having a minimum of inmates. For the care of 1,000 inmates, the estimated cost of the almshouse system is $600,000 per year, as against $800,000 for the Old Age Pension system. The latter would take care of three times the number, or over 3,000 persons, in a more humane and, of course, relatively cheaper rate.

Representative Stern believes it is but a question of time when Maine will adopt this humanitarian system, with honor to the State and credit to the citizenry.

"Yellow Dog" and Injunction Voided in Settling Shoe Strike

There'll be no immediate wage increase as the result of the settlement of the Lynn shoe strike, this having been deferred until April 20 by agreement between the union and manufacturers, but according to the settlement "yellow dog" contracts and injunctions are something of the past, and the Lynn shoe workers have won a victory which will be heralded throughout the country.

Governor Brann, who was present at the Amesbury, Haverhill and other shoe cities, to the number of several thousands, have gone on strike for conditions similar to those contended for by the Lynn shoe workers.

Wages of shoe workers have been "chiseled" down to the starvation point and with increasing business came the opportunity for them to take a decided stand, which it is believed the Lynn settlement offers a precedent for something like a resumption of former wages, when this matter comes up for decision on April 20th.

Two More Locals Added to Labor News Family

In response to President Daggett's recent appeal to local unions to become subscribers to The Labor News, Plumbers and Steamfitters' Local 717 of Bath, and Stereotypers and Electrotypers Local 131 of Portland, were added to the list as regular subscribers.

Some time ago, it was suggested by President Daggett that when a subscriber has read his paper he turn it over to someone whom he thinks would be interested. One incident reported during the week, proved this suggestion to be a good one. Secretary John S. Burchill of Carpenters' 517, Portland, loaned his copy of the February issue to James King and "Jim" liked it so well that he immediately subscribed.

This is a good plan to follow by members whose locals for some reason have thus far failed to subscribe in a body. Do this constantly, brothers, and eventually every local in the State will become a member of The Labor News family.

Organized Labor Will Not Abandon Policy Towards Soviet Gov't

New York City, Mar. 10 (ILNS).—The historic policy formulated under President Wilson, which declared for friendship with the Russian people and non-cooperation with their government, must be maintained and organized labor will continue its support of the policy, Matthew Woll, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, said in a statement here.

"Let it be remembered," Woll said, "that we were first to recognize the revolutionary Russia. To our honor it can be said that we are the only great nation today who withholds recognition from the Bolshevik government, which destroyed the conquests of the revolution.

"This doctrine of democratic origin is now being challenged in the hope that the incoming administration may be influenced for illusory economic

(Continued on Page 8)

New England Shoe Strikes Stir Norway Workers to Action

Shoe Workers Vote, 112 to 34, to Form Local Organization

Later reports from the shoe strike at Norway are to the effect that at a meeting held in Legion Hall on last Thursday evening, after a meeting lasting four hours, they voted to form a local union not affiliated with any national organization.

Present at the meeting were President Robert E. Daggett and Secretary Clarence M. Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who strongly urged the formation of a union to be affiliated with the Boot and Shoe Workers' International Union, but this suggestion, for the present at least, was laid in abeyance following remarks by Hugh Pendexter, noted author and a resident of Norway, who urged the employes to make their organization a purely local affair.

Lester Shulman, better known as "Red Mike" throughout New England, fought like blazes for recognition that would bring the workers under Communist domination, and Thomas O'Malley, Lynn representative of the National Shoe Workers' Association, made similar efforts but without avail.

Messrs. Daggett and Burgess, representing the State Federation, while conservative in their remarks, outlined the benefits to be derived by workers when affiliated with an organization which make part of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Daggett took advantage of the moment to correct a press statement in which the Rev. Conrad Rheinal was credited with having made reference to sweat-shop conditions. Mr. Daggett said he made this statement himself but did not mean to infer that such conditions obtained in the Norway shops, but merely meant to imply that a few more wage cuts would mean "sweat-shop pay if not conditions."

Mr. Daggett said he was not an employe from the shoe factories, but was interested in the welfare of the workers and that this incident, he felt, fully justified his remarks.

The Norway Shoe Co. employs 216 workers. The payroll for the week ending February 24 was $3,078.76, or an average of $16 a week for every employe. As this supposedly includes salaries of company officials, high-salaried office men, superintendents, foremen and other executives, it can be seen that Mr. Daggett's conclusion regarding the admirably low wages received by the operatives was not exaggerated.

There is one consolation in the decision arrived at by the workers, unless they fall for the company "union" scheme, which places them completely in the hands of the employers. With a local union organized, there is a possibility that eventually they will see the light and become affiliated with the regularly organized Labor movement.

"20-Grand" Cigarette Breaks Price Ring and Invites Reprisal

A union-made cigarette smashed the tobacco trust price ring recently, the first time since the war, when cigarettes made by the "Big Four" of the tobacco trust, namely, Camels, Lucky Strikes, Old Gold and Chesterfields, were reduced from 15 to 10 cents a package of 20.

All of these brands are non-union products, made in factories where, according to an investigation by the Women's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, wages have been shrunk 23 per cent in 10 years, while speeded up machinery and increased efficiency on the part of the workers had added 70 per cent to the value of the products during the same period.

The tobacco trust, however, kept its prices up until the Axton-Fisher Co., 100 per cent union concern, put "20 Grand," a new brand, on the market to retail at 10 cents for 20.

Within one week radio sally-hoo'ts speed it on its way, "20 Grand" soon became a factor in the cigarette world and the Axton-Fisher company made a net profit of $1,416,963 during 1932, or twice as much as in 1931.

The tobacco trust, alarmed at the progress made by this independent company and such new competitor, has now cut prices and according to their estimates, the reduction will lessen their annual gross sales by $100,000,000. In other words, they have been overcharging the smokers that much every year.

George Hill, president of one of the leading companies in the trust, has announced that it is their intention to drive the independent company out of business.

The Axton-Fisher company is well known to trade unionists, especially to railroad men. During the shop men's strike in 1922, the firm made heavy donations, both in cash and tobacco, to various strike funds throughout the country.

It also gave jobs to a number of strikers who became blacklisted on account of their union activities.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Sentiment of Operatives is to Stop Further Wage Cuts and Regain Conditions Lost During Past Two Years

Question of Joining Forces With Boot and Shoe Workers' Union is in Balance—Representatives of Dual Union and Communists, Who Offer Mere Theories, Interfere With Progress of State Branch Officials in Forming Regular Unions—"Red Mike" Shulman is Prominent Figure in Strike Area—Workers Demand 20 Per Cent Increase and 54-Hour Week.

The strike of shoe workers employed by the Norway Shoe Company on March 6, and which, according to last accounts is still in progress, fully demonstrates the temperament of shoe workers in Maine, who, during the past years, have suffered tremendous reductions in already low wages.

At the time of the Auburn trouble arose, The Labor News predicted this as the beginning of a movement that would eventually spread throughout the shoe centers of New England. This prediction was borne out a few weeks ago, when the shoe industry in Lynn was completely tied up, and which quickly spread to Lawrence, Haverhill, Amesbury and other cities.

While no official word was reached in Lynn, this to the effect that the wage question will be negotiated on April 20th, strikes in other cities, where shoe workers are not as thoroughly organized, negotiations are liable to drag along. This was manifested a few days ago, when the manufacturers rejected their organization, which a few years ago was permitted to collapse.

In Norway, as in numerous other New England shoe centers, the workers were bunced into believing that they would fare better if they broke from the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, and to maintain their independent or "company union." Efforts on the part of the B. & S. W. U. and the Maine State Federation of Labor to organize these proved of no avail.

They listened to the voices of their masters, and even paid some attention to representatives of dual "unions," as well as to Communistic agencies which, during the past few years, have been especially active in preaching the gospel of Communism wherever shoe and textile workers centered.

According to leaders in the Norway strike, who were in conference with officials of the State Federation of Labor last week, advantage has been taken of present depressed conditions to reduce wages almost to the starvation point. Only a few months ago, they said their company union, to which they are supposed to have re-

(Continued on Page 8)

A. F. OF L. URGES UNITED STATES FUNDS TO START NECESSITIES PRODUCTION

Strong Action Held Only Way to Save Nation—Federal Loans to Put Men Back to Work Held Essential to Check Present Economic Deflation and Turn Business Upward.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 8 (ILNS).—Advocating a strong Federal program to put men back to work and turn business upward, the American Federation of Labor urges Federal action to start the production of necessities as an essential measure in the present emergency.

It would be entirely possible for Federal action to start production of food, clothing and other absolute necessities, using Federal money which would only be used in cases when necessary as suggested in the Kent plan, the Federation points out in its monthly survey of business.

"Surveys of local needs could establish the extent of production necessary; production could be allotted and loans made on the basis of production and employment," the Federation says.

Strong Action Necessary

"As men are taken back to work and buying power restored, business will gradually right itself, and Federal support could be withdrawn. The accomplishment of such a plan is not at hand in local agencies of government, trade and labor; it remains for the Federal Government to marshal the forces in this war against depression as it would do in a war against a foreign enemy.

"Unless such measures are taken, the enemy of unemployment in our midst will take a far greater toll of human life and character than could be taken by an alien enemy in a foreign war."

The Federation reiterates its view, expressed repeatedly in recent months, that only strong Federal action can check the forces of deflation and start business toward normal activity.

Downward or Upward?

"The fate of the nation is in the hands of the new administration; whether we are to go downward to unknown depths or start back to normal living is dependent on the statesmanship of our new leader," the survey says.

In addition to putting men back to work by Federal action, which is declared of first importance, the Federation says that constructive action on the Federal budget and efforts to bring about resumption of world trade are essential in dealing with the present crisis.

"Care must be taken to avoid destructive measures, such as: 1. Further reduction of Government employes' incomes, which would only tend further to impair standards and reduce buying power; 2. General sales tax on necessities of living, which would further reduce workers living standards."

Recovery Not Started

The survey declares that loans by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation have not started recovery and warns that if the process of deflation continues, it cannot but bring worse crises, more business wreckage, worse unemployment, further destruction of human as well as economic values.

A. F. L. PROCLAIMS ADVANTAGE OF BARTER SYSTEM AS MEANS FOR PUTTING IDLE TO WORK PROVIDING LIFE NECESSITIES

Plan Advocated by The Labor News Several Months Ago, and Which Took Some Form Here, is Spreading All Through the Country—New England Should Lead in Work of Industrial Stabilization—Untouched Resources Supply Key to Problem.

The barter system, which for a long time has been persistently advocated by The Labor News, is strongly endorsed by the American Federation of Labor in its February summary of the labor problem.

After commenting upon the seriousness of the banking situation and expressing full confidence in President Roosevelt, it proceeds to show what may be accomplished by the barter and trade systems which have now been set up in hundreds of different localities.

Briefly speaking, these are central markets, or exchanges, where all sorts of material goods are collected and stacked up for trade and barter. No money of any current kind is necessary. If the value of one trade overlaps the other, the difference is accepted in so-called "barter scrip." This in turn is good for purchase of anything of equal value in the barter exchange.

Such exchanges also include labor, whereby a man may hire to work out such time as may be agreed upon at a rate satisfactory to both contracting parties. For instance, a carpenter or painter may barter with a farmer to paint or repair a house or barn, or any part of it, in exchange for pork and provisions. Each man holds to his own rate, or no trade results. Nobody is hurt, but everybody is helped. Labor is employed, families are fed and per-

(Continued on Page 6)

PORTLAND

PLAN FOR CITY-WIDE "RENOVIZE" AS MEANS FOR CREATING WORK, DISCUSSED AT MEETING OF PORTLAND C. L. U.

Francis Clay Harley, Representative of Tri-State Association, Seeks Endorsement of Plan to Secure Pledges From Citizens to Have Repairs and Alterations Done Now—Plan Successfully Carried Out in Philadelphia and Other Cities.

Last Wednesday night's meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union was addressed by Francis Clay Harley, of Philadelphia, who represents the Tri-State Society, and who, through the Master Painters' Association, has been able to form a Portland Chapter.

Explaining his plan to get work for the unemployed through the medium of a city-wide "renovizing" plan, with business firms and house-owners being pledged to renovate or repair their property, after being solicited by committees of workers, Mr. Harley said members of the Business Women's Club and others would canvass the city under his supervision in a house-to-house campaign.

He said all work will be done by reputable contractors, who would, for a limited time, be asked to reduce their rates for labor and supplies, in order to do the work sufficiently low to interest the public.

Replying to several inquiries from delegates, Mr. Harley explained that pending agreements with employers would be set aside for the length of time of the campaign, and that the building trades members and employers would help each other so that work could be done for almost half of the former cost. He said the campaign would be put over on the same plan as the one recently conducted in Philadelphia, and that it would release thousands of dollars for the building trades workers.

At this meeting, our old war-horse of the Labor movement, George Haney, former recording secretary, returned as a delegate from Carpenters' Local 517.

Street Railway Man's Secretary Laid Up With Sprained Ankle

Delegate Edward W. Cobb, secretary and treasurer of Division 714, A. A. of S. & E. R. E. or A., had the misfortune to sprain his ankle several weeks ago, and is confined to his home at 177 Ocean street, South Portland. We wish Brother Cobb a speedy recovery.

Reference to Iron Workers Ordered Stricken From Minutes

At the regular meeting of the Central Labor Union, held March 1st, it was voted to have stricken from the records of the February 1st meeting the discussion that took place relative to the report of the chairman of the Organizing Committee in regard to the action of the International Union of Bridge & Structural Iron Workers, after Delegate Harney explained that the men seeking this charter had never been members of the abandoned local of the Bridge & Structural Iron Workers and that The Labor News be notified of this action.

MOTORISTS GLADLY CO-OPERATE WITH ST. RAILWAY MEN WHEN TOLD OF HAVING "PICKED UP" PROSPECTIVE CAR RIDERS

According to the Memphis Evening Appeal, watchers of the Memphis St. Railway, Memphis, Tenn., take the license numbers of any motorist who picks up a prospective fare. Then a railway official calls the motorist. The telephone conversation, the Appeal says, goes something like this:

"Did you pick up a party standing at the corner of ... this morning?"

"Yes."

"We realize it was a kindly act, and that your impulse was a generous one, but the ... by daily. Yet the ... or which you, in fact, will be shortened unless the motoring public co-operates with us, etc."

"Usually," says the paper, "the motorist replies that he hadn't thought of it that way."

Hundreds of such calls are said to have been placed by the railway since the campaign began. General Manager McWhorter is quoted by the Appeal as follows:

"Few drivers realize the serious damage they are doing the company and the public when they rob us of a prospective passenger. There are motorists in Memphis who pick up as many as four or five persons on street corners every day, thus cutting as much as 8% cents off our revenue. The practice has become so general that some days our loss from this source runs as high as $300."

Loss to the company is only part of the story, Mr. McWhorter said. The loss leads to curtailment of service, which means fewer street cars in operation and longer waits on corners for those dependent upon this form of transportation. Drop in revenue also means reduction in salaries of employes and fewer jobs for workmen and trainmen. Mr. McWhorter is quoted further:

"Our motive is not altogether a selfish one. We want to give the maximum of service and to provide jobs for a large number of men and to pay excellent wages, but we cannot do it when hundreds of persons normally riding on our lines are getting free trips to and from town every day.

"So, now, when a motorman sees this happen, he takes the car number; we check it to find the owner and ... ar telephone or call on him. Invariably, motorists thus contacted tell us they did not realize the damage ... ng done and usually we are thanked for calling it to their attention.

"A number of large firms here have been kind enough to inform all their employes concerning our position in this matter, and we hope others will do the same.

"It is not that we begrudge the citizen his chance to give a ride to town, but simply that we are tremendously handicapped by the loss thus suffered."

OBITUARY

Mark E. Loring, president of Local No. 2 of the B. M. & P. I. U., passed away February 16, 1933, at the age of 57. Brother Loring was born in Portland and was a member of our Local for 25 years and president for the past six years. He was a delegate to the Houston and Montreal international conventions and many times a delegate to the Maine State Conference Conventions.

Brother Loring was a veteran of the World War and a member of the Eagles and Foresters of America. He was an expert mechanic, a firm upholder if Union rules, and was held in very high esteem by the members of this Union and the members of the building trades crafts.

Brother Loring had a host of friends and his loss is felt keenly by all who knew him.

The Union deeply sympathizes with his family and those close to him.

THOMAS J. MAHONEY,
Rec. Sec'y, No. 2, Maine.

It will be appreciated it, when making purchases from our advertisers you will please mention The Labor News.

A New Thrifty Service by Watkins

"THRIFTY CLEAN" FOR YOUR PLAIN EVERYDAY GARMENTS

It Has the Watkins Assurance of Satisfaction Always

Women's Plain Dresses and Coats
Men's Suits and Coats

85c CLEANED—PRESSED

WE CALL FOR AND DELIVER

We Recommend Sanitone For Your Better Garments

WATKINS
CLEANSERS AND DYERS

NISSEN'S BREAD
FOR EVERY MEAL AND LUNCH
ASK FOR
Nissen's Doughnuts, Cakes, Pastries
John J. Nissen Baking Co. Portland, Maine

Pawtucket Situation of Particular Interest to New England Printers

Much interest is centered in the lockout of Printers on the Pawtucket Times by members of Portland Typographical Union. First, because of conditions which caused the difficulty, and the fact that it is the first printers lockout to have occurred since the Albany strike in 1928.

President Cantwell of the New England Typo. Union, who was in consultation with officials of the Pawtucket local on Saturday, reported that the lockout was a 100 per cent proposition and that the union is prepared to put up a good stiff fight, and all concerned are hopeful or winning.

The management, he said, refuses to arbitrate a 27 per cent reduction demanded of the workers, and refused to confer with officials unless they agree to accept the reduction and to eliminate several important rules which for years made up the agreement under which the composing room had been operated.

To take the places of about 40 men, it is reported the Plaza strikebreaking agency had thus far been able to furnish 40 men, and while much trouble was experienced in getting out the paper for several days, the editions during the past few days have been coming out more regularly.

The strikebreakers, who, it is said, receive $20 a day and with free board and lodging, are transported to and fro from the plant at closing time to the Hotel Narragansett in Providence, under armed guards, where they are registered as "a Baptist delegation."

Headquarters are established in the skating rink, which is owned by a cousin of Publisher Black, and which is furnished free of charge for rent and heat.

The arbitrary manner in which the owner of the Pawtucket Times is acting, it is reported, is meeting with anything but satisfaction on the part of advertisers and subscribers, and a noticeable decrease in advertising and subscriptions has been the result since the strike occurred last Wednesday.

Newport Chosen Convention City By N. E. Typos

William P. Cantwell, of Worcester, president; Francis E. Joachim, of Burlington, Vt., first vice-president; Professor W. Buss, Concord, N. H., secretary-treasurer of the New England Typographical Union, who with G. H. Dineen of Bridgeport, Harry A. Bloomberg of Providence, and Philip M. Wigin of Portland, comprising also its executive committee, have selected Newport as the city for the convention city for its annual meeting on June 25, 26 and 27.

During the past month, negotiations have been going on with the Newport Chamber of Commerce, through Herbert A. Lanman, Gardner H. Williams, manager of the Hotel Viking, and Mr. McGowan, manager of the convention hall, and all have assured the printers that with the valuable assistance always given visitors by Mayor Mortimer Sullivan, the event will be one to be long remembered.

President Cantwell made the trip to Newport last Sunday in connection with arrangements for the convention. While there he consulted with officials of the Typographical Union, and also President Myles J. Johnson of the Newport Central Labor Union.

Building Permits in Big Increase

Washington, D. C., Mar. 10 (ILNS)—There was an increase of 29.6 per cent in indicated expenditures for total building operations covered by permits issued in January, 1933, with those issued in December, 1932, according to reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, from 351 identical cities having a population of 25,000 and over. Indicated expenditures for all building operations for which permits were issued in these cities for January totaled $2,826,797. Comparing January with December, there was an increase of 2.7 per cent in the number, but a decrease of 6.3 per cent in the indicated expenditures for new residential buildings. New non-residential buildings increased 3.9 per cent in number and 45.0 per cent in indicated expenditures. Additions alterations, and repairs increased 10.3 per cent in number and 18.2 per cent in indicated expenditures.

Union Label is Guarantee Goods Are Made in America

"The union label is a guarantee that decent wages have been paid workers engaged in manufacture of the article," says the Typographical Journal, which adds: "The union label is also positive proof that no child labor entered into the manufacture of the article. Nothing bearing the union label was manufactured in under sweatshop conditions. 'Forced labor' is never employed in the manufacture of goods bearing the union label. Nothing made by child labor can show the emblem representative of American labor independence. To bear the American trades union label the goods must have been produced by American union labor."

Union Label Trades Cooperate in "Buy American" Movement

The "Buy American" movement recently started by the American Federation of Labor, is receiving the cooperation of the Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L., announcement to this effect now being made through communications sent to State Federations, central bodies and union label committees throughout the country.

According to the letter read at the March 1 meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union, the move is taking on big proportions, and officials of the Union Label Trades Department request all central bodies to join in making the campaign a success.

"Among the 12,000,000 unemployed," the letter states, "are many thousands of members of trade unions whose products are made under unfair conditions and bear the union label. To purchase these products is not only an assurance that they are made in America, but that members of trade unions will be assured steady employment."

Organizations that have not as yet named permanent union label committees or sections, are requested to do so at once, and are asked to cooperate to the fullest extent in making the "Buy American" movement one that will redound to the best interests of American workers.

The department expresses a desire to keep in touch with union label activities throughout the country, and requests secretaries of these committees or sections to communicate with John J. Manning, A. F. of L. Building, in Washington, telling him of the progress made during the campaign.

Old-Time Militancy Essential for Future Success of Unions

"Conditions brought on by the World War, which made things in general easier for members of trade unions, has had a tendency to make them too conservative, and as a consequence much of that old-time militancy which was responsible for the rapid strides made by the Labor movement prior to the War has disappeared, said one delegate at a recent meeting of the Portland C. L. U., while discussing organization affairs.

"This business of addressing the boss in a courteous manner, and as Bob Ingersoll once said, 'if he won't please do but I question if this method brings as good results as were gained 25 years ago when committees represented the Central Labor Union were persistent in their demands, and while willing to compromise, did not carry a submissive manner in which we go about doing things at present.

"It's my impression that the average boss is quick to size up a man by the way he starts his conversation, and if done timidly, the committeeman is halfbeaten before he starts. For the most part, Gompers, we are gruff and to the point, and the chances for success with them are greatly enhanced when such a proposition is put up to them in a straight-forward and determined manner.

"To my way of thinking," he said, "the old-time militant way in which we settled our affairs with employers is the best method when these are attempted to take our jobs during strikes, is preferable to the present, which I firmly believe is becoming antiquated and a line for revamping."

24-Hour Week for Boston Building Trades Unions

It solidarity means what the word implies, present wage schedules in the Boston Building Trades Unions will be kept intact this year.

Determined action was taken at a meeting at which were present 81 delegates representing building trades, in Walsh Memorial Building last Sunday, at which unanimous opposition was voiced against taking any further wage cuts. Delegates representing trades not affiliated with the Boston Building Trades Council, these including the Carpenters, Bricklayers and Masons and Plasterers, Tile Setters, Marble Setters and Sprinkler Fitters and Helpers, agreed to the action taken.

As a means for spreading work among the largest possible number, a program was adopted calling for a 24-hour week as an emergency measure, and a 30-hour week as the standard in the building industry.

These recommendations will be reported back to the unions represented at the meeting for ratification or rejection, and another meeting will be held on March 15, at which the action of the various unions will be placed before the delegates.

Union Label Products Discussed by Pawt. Bldg. Trades Council

Pawtucket, Rhode Island, Feb. 29.—Realizing that the purchase of Union Label products lies much of the future success of the trade union movement, the Pawtucket Building Trades Council, at its February 15th meeting, named a committee to plan a program of activities to be conducted during the next few months.

With a large portion of those employed in factories producing union made goods, either out of work or only working part-time, it is readily seen that those owning homes cannot afford to have those painted or to make other necessary repairs.

It was said at the meeting that because of present industrial conditions there is a strong tendency toward buying low-priced products, and that the interests of those producing union made goods have been disregarded. This has resulted in decreased production with increased unemployment as a result.

Prompted by a communication received from the Union Label Trades Department, A. F. of L., announcement to this effect now being made through communications sent to State Federations, central bodies and union label committees throughout the country.

According to the letter read at the March 1 meeting of the Portland Central Labor Union, the move is taking on big proportions, and officials of the Union Label Trades Department request all central bodies to join in making the campaign a success.

"Among the 12,000,000 unemployed," the letter states, "are many thousands of members of trade unions whose products are made under unfair conditions and bear the union label. To purchase these products is not only an assurance that they are made in America, but that members of trade unions will be assured steady employment."

Organizations that have not as yet named permanent union label committees or sections, are requested to do so at once, and are asked to cooperate to the fullest extent in making the "Buy American" movement one that will redound to the best interests of American workers.

The department expresses a desire to keep in touch with union label activities throughout the country, and requests secretaries of these committees or sections to communicate with John J. Manning, A. F. of L. Building, in Washington, telling him of the progress made during the campaign.

Shorter Work-Day Necessary, Says Vice Pres. Fechner

The need for the shorter work-day and the shorter work week in the interest of labor, is going to be gained by blinking that fact. Millions of unemployed suggest one remedy—less hours of labor so as to spread employment over a greater number of men now idle.

Such was the general line of argument put forth by Vice President Fechner of the International Association of Machinists, in a recent address before the Monday Club of the Y. M. C. A. at Newport, R. I.

The speaker mentioned the now much-mooted Technocracy as being worthy of serious consideration, and one not to be scoffed aside. Speaking of the displacement of labor by the machine, he declared that Newport was one of the few cities in the country where the apprenticeship system was still in vogue. The Torpedo Station apprentice school, he said, is one of the finest in the country. It trains boys for all phases of the machinist trade.

Mr. Fechner favored old age pensions and unemployment insurance, also health insurance in industry. Child labor was condemned.

30 Hours Favored On Public Works by California Commission

San Francisco, Calif., Mar. 10 (AFL)—The California State Unemployment Commission, in their report to the Governor and State Legislature, recommended that the State should adopt the six-hour day and five-day week on all public works, and should, wherever possible, put the five-day week into effect in all branches of the State service.

This commission was created in 1931 to study unemployment relating to unemployment and to formulate plans and recommend legislation to assist in the solution of these problems. The commission consists of the following members, appointed by Gov. Ralph: Archbishop Edward J. Hanna, chairman; Rabbi Jacob Kraskovitz, O. K. Cushing and Will J. French. Dr. Louis Bloch is secretary and director of surveys for the commission.

Work Spreading

With regard to providing employment, the commission states that, since all industries are affected to the same extent by labor-saving devices, uniform legal restrictions are not at the present time desirable.

It is their opinion that instead of such legislative uniformity, it would be better to make it a function of the State Industrial Relations Conditions to promote and encourage the spreading of work in all industries which are confronted with a serious unemployment problem.

This function, it is held, should not be confined to the present emergency but should exist under normal conditions in any industry warrant.

The State, as an employer of labor, the commission points out, should divide its work among as many employes as is practicable and consistent with the budget. By adopting such a policy it is pointed out during the present emergency, the State can give added impetus to this practice in private industry.

30 Hours for Two Years

In order to put these proposals into effect, the commission recommends the enactment of two measures. One of these would be an emergency law, effective until July 1, 1935, unless terminated sooner by the Governor, which would establish a six-hour day and a five-day week on all State public works. It would also provide that in all branches of the State service, the five-day week should, whenever practicable, be adopted.

Shorter Hours Not Mandatory

The other measures would amend the law creating the Department of Industrial Relations to make it the duty of this department to recommend the hours to be worked in an industry, or to make other recommendations as to spreading employment.

It is specified that the department, in making its recommendations, should consider the suggestions of employers and employes within the industry also, that the department should keep a public record of employers who comply and of those who fail to comply with its recommendations.

States Speed Action to Ratify Prohibition Repeal

Washington, D. C., Mar. 10 (ILNS)—With the resolution for repeal of the 18th amendment passed by big votes in the Senate and House, the States are moving with unprecedented speed to set up constitutional conventions and ratify the proposed amendment. A flood of bills were introduced in State legislatures throughout the nation calling for ratifying conventions in May, the date set by Congress for one to see which State can be first to ratify.

As soon as the amendment was approved, Congressional leaders announced steps would be taken for quick action on measures legalizing beer.

The repeal amendment was passed by the Senate, 63 to 23, and by the House, 289 to 121. The proposed amendment will become part of the Constitution when ratified by conventions in three-fourths of the States.

Smiley's
Strictly a Woman's Store
Emphasizing the Economy of buying quality merchandise at a fair price.

SHORTER WORK-WEEK ONLY SOLUTION FOR PUTTING BACK TO WORK LARGE PORTION OF NATION'S UNEMPLOYED

Method by Which Present Deplorable Industrial Condition May Be Alleviated Outlined in Address Before the Men's Club of Holden Congregational Church—That Even Though Peak Production of 1929 Should be Reached, There Still Would Be 7,000,000 Unemployed.

(From The Worcester Labor News)

How best to act as a means for putting back to work a large portion of the army of 12,000,000 unemployed in this country, thereby assuring increased purchasing power, was discussed in an address delivered by Freeman M. Saltus, editor of The Labor News, before The Men's Union of Holden Congregational Church, in the church hall last Thursday evening.

Mr. Saltus said, in part:

"The one main question of the day is—how to banish unemployment, huge masses and ever-increasing unemployment. At the present time, something like 12 million persons are unemployed, a condition that is nothing for them to do, according to the present system of hours and wages. In a land which is the richest in the world in crops and harvests and natural resources, people suffer terrible want and privation through the dislocation of our present industrial and general financial systems by which the business and enterprise of the country have been conducted.

"The 30-hour week and the six-hour workday have together been put forth as one means of combatting unemployment. In effect, it is the rationing of work. But also, it would share whatever existing employment there is on such a basis as to relieve the acute distress of the permanently unemployed.

"At the time, the 48-hour week is in general practice throughout the larger fields of industry, beginning first with railroading. But, inasmuch as the railroads have in recent years greatly reduced the number of their employes, progressively and determinedly, even this standard must be changed if conditions are to improve. The 48-hour week, which was long and bitterly fought for, has proven but a temporary help in the ever-onward march of progressive industrial advancement, with its consistent displacement of human labor. What can be more natural and reasonable than to require that work hours be shortened to whatever extent may be necessary to prevent a hopeless accumulation of idle labor? There, in reality, is what the 30-hour week proposes to do.

48-Hour Week Outdated

"It has been stated upon reliable accepted authority, that the 48-hour week has become outdated and no longer effective in stemming unemployment. Even at the time of our greatest prosperity, perhaps more apparent than real, there were said to be over two million and a half permanently unemployed. If this was the case, what may we expect in normal times, and even in times of drastic depression?

"The whole history of labor has been a history of an effort to reduce hours of toil. The way has been long and hard. In 1890 standard work hours in union manufacturing industries averaged nearly 60 hours. It took the union plants 30 years, years of hard struggle, to reach this point. Finally, in 1920, the non-union group were averaging 53½ hours a week as against a 46-hour standard for the unions.

"Decade by decade, the process had continued. Going back to 1840, we find the immunely long 72-hour week in progress, as compared with a 50½ hour week in 1920. A progressive public intelligence and a better realization of human values had combined to bring about this salutary change. The union standard and the constant effort of the unions to make employment keep pace with greater production by decreasing the hours of labor, had been of the greatest public and private benefit."

Mr. Saltus reverted to the period of the World War, when there was of necessity a tremendous expansion in industrial activity to keep pace with the demands of that great struggle. When the war came to an end, the country was faced with a greatly overexpanded productive capacity for which there was then no normal need.

Progress Cannot be Halted

Mechanization of industry cannot be halted or even checked. Progress must go on, and on! It is not in trying to stay the march of progress that the real remedy lies, but in making proper use of the facilities on an increasingly equitable basis to labor; that is, proportionate compensation for increased production. The steam loom drove out the hand-loom and created a temporary upheaval in the textile industry. But, industry adjusted itself, in time. Nobody would now think of going back to the hand-loom except possibly Mahatma Gandhi, and he as industrial scientist of no matters here.

Southern Competition

"Massachusetts has been suffering for years, and is still suffering," Mr. Saltus said, "from unfair competition from the Southern States. These have lax labor laws with regard to the hours of labor, notably Alabama and the Carolinas. As a result, this State has to compete against long hours and scanty wages. This competition has brought about a warning from Gov. Joseph B. Ely that our present 48-hour law for women and children in the textile industry may be suspended in order to meet and match this menace from the South. But Labor will strongly oppose any such breaking down of the working standards."

Shorter Work-Day and Work-Week

The speaker advocated the shorter work-day and work-week to take up the slack in unemployment and to stabilize the industry. With a work-week of but 30 hours, employment would be furnished for many millions of people now out of work.

He said employers as a rule are slow to realize the importance of putting the shorter work-week into effect, notwithstanding that the decreased purchasing power of the 12,000,000 unemployed is largely responsible for continuance of the present business depression.

There is hope, he said, that with the return of normal conditions the greater portion of this slack can be taken up, but that is not to be had even though the peak production of 1929 is reached, there would still be left more than 7,000,000 unemployed.

Unemployment insurance was advocated as a basic means for stabilizing the labor market. If industry would build up unemployment insurance reserves it would carry the workers over the enforced period of idleness, both in normal times, and even in times of drastic depression?

"The whole history of labor has been a history of an effort to reduce hours of toil. The way has been long and hard. In 1890 standard work hours in union manufacturing industries averaged nearly 60 hours. It took the union plants 30 years, years of hard struggle, to reach this point. Finally, in 1920, the non-union group were averaging 53½ hours a week as against a 46-hour standard for the unions.

"Decade by decade, the process had continued. Going back to 1840, we find the immunely long 72-hour week in progress, as compared with a 50½ hour week in 1920. A progressive public intelligence and a better realization of human values had combined to bring about this salutary change. The union standard and the constant effort of the unions to make employment keep pace with greater production by decreasing the hours of labor, had been of the greatest public and private benefit."

Mr. Saltus reverted to the period of the World War, when there was of necessity a tremendous expansion in industrial activity to keep pace with the demands of that great struggle. When the war came to an end, the

State Forests Furnish Unemployed With Needed Fuel

Harrisburg, Pa., Mar. 10 (ILNS)—The State forests have supplied 12,200 cords of free fuelwood to needy families in Pennsylvania this winter, Lewis E. Staley, secretary of the Department of Forests and Waters, announces. Since last October, 1,667 permits have been issued to welfare agencies and individuals. In addition there were 86 unemployment relief projects in the State forests which gave employment to some 1,500 men.

State forestry officials estimate that at least 6,000 persons were directly or indirectly benefited.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Produced in Portland By Portland Workers

"THE FUEL THAT SAVES YOU MONEY"

PORTLAND DOMESTIC COKE is Portland's own solid fuel for home heating and is guaranteed by us to give you absolute and complete satisfaction. It is clean. It is easy to handle. It leaves little ash, does not clinker, and there is no sifting necessary. There's no smoke, no soot, no odor. It gives you a quick, hot fire, or a slow fire at will. It will heat your home with complete satisfaction regardless of what the temperature outside may be. And IT SAVES YOU MONEY. Just one single ton—a trial ton—will convince you.

PORTLAND GAS LIGHT COMPANY
5 Temple St. Portland, Me.
TELEPHONE FOREST 5500

PORTLAND DOMESTIC COKE
"THE FUEL THAT SAVES YOU MONEY"

AUGUSTA

AUGUSTA PLUMBER THOUGHT "PH. D." STOOD FOR "PARTIAL HORSE DOCTOR" AND BECAME APPRENTICED TO BLACKSMITH

Left Trade When Told by His Employer He Lacked Sufficient Brains to Become Horse Doctor, and Was Advised To Become Plumber—Was Attracted to This Because Plumbers Wore Derby Hats—Says "Al" Smith Must Have Been a Wizard of a Plumber—Got Little Education as Time Spent in School Was in Pulling Bugs and Worms Apart.

Editor, Maine State Labor News:

Dear Sir:—At last, after you have kept writing to me for months from the Plumbers in Augusta, I am going to answer your letter, and let you know why I can not write for your paper. You see, Mr. Editor, I have not the schooling, as I never got very far with books.

During my first few years in school, I was most always pulling bugs and worms apart. 'Course, the teacher did not care much, but the girls did. Well, anyway, the teacher got telling me that I probably would be a "Ph. D." when I grew up; so I asked my pa and ma what "Ph. D." was. Pa said it was "Partial Horse Doctor." Well, I kept a-thinking about being a horse doctor, so I left school and got a job with a blacksmith. You see, I wanted to start at the bottom and work up. Well, sir, after a long while, that blacksmith up and told me I did not have enough brains to be a horse doctor, but he thought I might be able to get by as a Plumber.

That was the best idea ever put into my head. What could be better than a plumber? They wore good clothes and had a young fellow to go get things they forgot, and always wore derby hats. That looked good to me—those derby hats, the distinguishing marks of a plumber. Say, "Al" Smith must have been a wizard of a plumber; he still wears his Derby now, and a brown one at that.

Well, I got a job helping a plumber and after a few years, a fellow came along and organized a union. Me, sir, I joined as everybody else did. First thing I knew, I had a helper and a Derby hat. I thought I was set for life. Then came higher wages for the fellows, that went to the union meetings fixed that all up. You see, Mr. Editor, I never went; 'cause I did not care what was going on, so long as money and clothes and two Derby hats, one for best and one for work.

Joined Union But Didn't Go to Any Meetings

Some of the boys began telling me I ought to go to the union meetings, but I never did. Then things and times got to go from bad to worse and then some more; so I heard the boys all talking about "something had to be done". Well I had not much to do then, so I up and go to a union meeting. Well, sir, since then I haven't missed any of the meetings. You know this depression surely has given us plenty of time to get together and become acquainted. I never knew the boys as well as I do now.

Well, the thing they were going to do was to have their second annual banquet and entertainment. This took place on February 22, and believe me it was some time. I went, you just bet I did, and if you are ever invited you don't want to miss that event. No sir!

Clarence Burgess, you know him, the secretary and legislative agent for the State Federation of Labor; well, he was here; ask him about it.

The banquet was held in the Hotel North dininguroom, which is run now by Fred McCurdy and what a cook he is. As you know, the State Branch convention is to be held in Augusta this June. Tell all the boys if they want some good feeds to see Fred McCurdy.

Well, to get back to the banquet. First there was "pink lemonade," and I bet you the fellow that wrote that song about "Pink Elephants" must have drank some at some time. Then there were olives with red centers; I guess they were cherries, and celery and steak. Say! What a piece of meat they gave you! Hot biscuits, potato, salad made out of lettuce and tomatoes, and apple pie and ice cream and coffee, and more of that "pink lemonade," if anyone wanted it. But from what I saw, or could see, everybody had enough.

The Boys All Shouted "No!"

As you know, Plumbers' Local 643 invited all the employers in this locality. Well, sir, one of them fellows wanted to know if Local 643 was busting up. You should have heard the boys shout—"No!" I can tell you that they are banded together stronger now than ever before. It looks as though the depression is having a good effect as they all turn out now for the meetings. And what spirit they show in this push to stronger and better unions and conditions.

After the banquet, we went down to our meeting place, but instead of a meeting we had an entertainment by Prof. Carter of Portland, some boy, too! He sure is fine and knows his stuff. Following the entertainment which lasted for an hour, came a meeting, at which we elected the following officers, the same as in 1932:

President, William Collins; vice president, Merle Cole; financial secretary, Herbert Carey; recording secretary, Charles Clause; financial secretary, Earl Carey.

Say, you know, since the depression and the large number of pulp and paper brought here from foreign countries, were given as the principal causes for present conditions, which, during the past few months, have resulted in greatly increased unemployment.

In discussing means for bringing about a more equitable plan so that all employes may be provided with work three or four days a week, those who sponsored the plan argued the shortening of the work week as the only way in which all could benefit during these times, or until improved conditions are made possible. Strong hopes were expressed that Congress will act speedily in formulating legislation that will remove the damaging competition which at present is causing deplorable conditions in the pulp and paper industry.

Following the meeting, a clam supper and entertainment was provided, which proved a most enjoyable occasion. Among the speakers were President Robert E. Daggett and Secretary Clarence R. Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, who referred to pending legislation at the State House, and who both expressed confidence in having some of Labor's bills passed at this session.

The entertainment program consisted of harmonica selections, clog dancing and other acts by Joseph Cloutier and Henry Bechard, and Brother Marvin Merrin (64 years old and weighing 200 pounds), who while being unable to stand the strain of dancing for any length of time, did manage to demonstrate considerable vitality as a clog dancer, his act being declared the "real stuff."

AUGUSTA CENTRAL LABOR UNION TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR STATE FEDERATION CONVENTION AT MEETING ON APRIL 7

A special call meeting will be held by the Augusta Central Labor Union on Friday evening, April 7, the principal purpose of which will be to make arrangements for the annual convention of the Maine State Federation of Labor, to be held here in June.

The matter was discussed at the March 3rd meeting, but it was thought advisable to postpone action until the April 7th meeting, and to request every delegate to be present.

The coming of delegates to this city to attend the State Federation convention, from all parts of the State, will be an important event and as it is desirous to outline a program that will warrant entertainment and other details for convention week, delegates are requested to attend the meeting in as large numbers as possible.

Secretary Clarence R. Burgess, of the Federation, who was present at the meeting, told the delegates regarding the importance of this year's convention, and felt certain it would be largely attended. Mr. Burgess laid particular stress on Labor's legislative program, referring in detail to the interest manifested by affiliated Central bodies and local unions, which were represented in goodly numbers at all the committee hearings held thus far.

Mr. Burgess announced that a full report of Labor's activities at the State House during the present session, bills relating to hearings and to the action taken by the Legislature on a number of bills, had been mailed to all affiliated organizations. Present depressed conditions, he said, have had a tendency to mar the success of some of Labor's measures, because these entailed extra expense to the State, but expressed confidence that some of the measures advocated this year will be enacted into law.

5-Day Week for Painters Agreed Upon With Contractors

Painters' Local Union No. 541, at its regular meeting on February 28, had an oyster stew supper, after which there was an interesting meeting. This was a get-together meeting of the contracting members and the journeymen to talk over the situation and make plans for the coming season's work.

Everyone had a chance to express his opinion. A majority of those present thought a five-day week was best and it was adopted. This means quite a substantial reduction in wages, but as all wanted to do their part, they felt action rather than bemoaning would help to overcome the depression.

A committee was appointed to meet the contractors to draw up rules and a wage schedule for the year.

If the people will do their part, there can be a large amount of work performed this year; but all must bear in mind that all work performed by outside contractors, who bring in their help from out-of-town, means that much less money will be circulated in Augusta. This, it was said, will hinder to some extent, the overcoming of the depression here. It is local Labor's pay roll that helps to circulate cash, and to a large extent keeps business moving.

Trade Unions Important Factor

"While we enjoy in America more political liberty, yet in many ways Russia has a greater economic liberty in Russia. Everywhere there, trade unions are legal; some of the most imposing buildings are turned over to the trade unions. They have all forms of social insurance, from old age pensions to unemployment insurance. The wages are not five to 50 per cent higher than under the Czar's regime. Literacy is gaining fast. Educational progress is being established."

After suggesting that an economic commission be sent from our Government to make a study of Russia, as President Hoover once proposed to do, Prof. Davis concluded:

"Ignoring Russia means a continuance of the hate and fear psychology of war, the spirit which threatens the safety of Europe. America needs to give the world an example of trust, not of fear, and a greater loyalty to the ideal of tolerance."

PULP AND SULPHITE WORKERS MAKE MERRY AT CLAM SUPPER AND THEN DISCUSS MEANS TO SPREAD WORK

How to spread employment as a means for furnishing the greatest possible number of members of Local 57, Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers with continuous employment, was the subject of a spirited discussion at a special meeting and clam supper held by that organization last week.

Decreased business, due to the depression and the large amount of pulp and paper brought here from foreign countries, were given as the principal causes for present conditions, which, during the past few months, have resulted in greatly increased unemployment.

RECOGNITION OF SOVIET GOV'T. WOULD MEAN BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR TRADE FOR PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Prof. Jerome Davis of Yale University, in Lecture Before People's Forum, Unfolds Views on Russia in Plea for Recognition and For Tolerance of Differing Political Systems—Trade Unions Important Factor.

(From The Worcester Labor News)

"Revolutions are sociological puzzles. To understand them, one has to go beyond the causes which produced them. Just as in the laboratory, a combination of certain chemicals will inevitably cause an explosion; so, unjust conditions combined in the right proportions will always cause the explosion which we call a revolution," declared Prof. Jerome Davis, of Yale University, in a lecture before the People's Forum in Eagles Hall, last Monday evening. In his spirited talk, he went into the merits and demerits of Soviet Russia, without malice or apology. The present framework of that government must be understood as being reared on the old overthrown tyrannical repression. Republicanism was typical of America, with its system of free representative government. Russian prisons did not deter political activity; they merely held it in bounds for a time, to be later all the more militant, he asserted. In fact, revolutionism thrives on repression.

Commenting on Industrial Russia, the speaker referred to the five-year plan in which the economic life of that nation is mapped out in advance. But he foresaw many obstacles to Russia becoming able to outstrip this country, industrially, in anything like the near future. Fears on this score were groundless. The system of collectivism, or enforced labor by whole communities, under government compulsion, he said had evoked peasant hostility.

"Russia," he continued, "has a population of 160,000,000 people. As their purchasing level advances they will demand more and more goods. America is fitted to take the leadership in meeting the needs of the new Russian government and its people. If we were to have a trade agreement with Russia, it would mean a trade of a billion dollars annually."

Better Outlook for Industry This Year, Says Textile World

That the textile industry is slowly emerging from the shadow and looking forward to better things is the opinion expressed by Douglas G. Woolf, editor of The Textile World, in the annual number of that publication. The year 1932 closed with a marked gain of activity in textile manufacturing which was estimated at but 10 per cent below that of 1931 and only 16 per cent under what would be called normal production.

Whether the tremendously important factor of six-cent cotton had anything to do with this result, was not stated. But it is unquestionable that this extremely low price of the basic product must have had a controlling influence on the improvement recorded.

Mr. Douglas, while admitting that some business was done at a loss in 1932, contended that the improvement in the textile industry had probably contributed more in proportion to reemployment than any other had any other industry. This is a strong statement and should give encouragement to all. He admitted that he believes that the year 1932 may well have marked the turning point of the depression. While he admitted that price cutting in the trade had been a disturbing factor, this had been to some extent offset by economies brought about by the scrapping of obsolete machinery and equipment and a consequent betterment in production possibilities.

Increased production is looked for in 1933 and, while admitting that the way will be neither smooth nor easy, Mr. Woolf speaks with confident conviction of the brighter and larger opportunities offered for betterment in the trade, and of the ability of those in the industry to improve the turn of the tide.

THIS IS NO TIME TO LIE DOWN!

Of all times when the men and women of Organized Labor should be doing their utmost to strengthen their unions, the present is the most urgent. At no time in the past has the situation been as critical as it is right now. Everything that labor has won in the past is in danger of being sacrificed on the altar of greed and unless labor gives much closer attention to its union business than it has done in the past, there is the gravest danger that most serious consequences will follow the bitter and relentless attacks being planned against the entire American Labor movement.

TREASURY DEPT.'S RULING CONCERNING EMPLOYMENT OF LOCAL LABOR ON JOBS, RECEIVED BY STATE BRANCH OFFICIAL

Answer to Letter Sent by United States Senator Frederick Hale, States Contractors Are Expected to Use Local Labor as Far as Practicable—All Work Restricted to Thirty Hours Per Week.

Under date of March 2nd, Secretary Clarence R. Burgess was in receipt of a communication from U. S. Senator Frederick Hale, to which was attached a copy of a ruling by Ferry K. Heath, assistant secretary of the Treasury, concerning the employment of local help on construction work done under the Emergency Relief and Construction Act of July 21, 1932.

Mr. Heath's letter to Senator Hale follows:

"Hon. Frederick Hale,
"United States Senate.

"My dear Senator:—With reference to your letter of February 22nd, where-with you transmit a letter from the Maine State Federation of Labor, Augusta, Maine, requesting that there be included in the contracts for Federal buildings in Maine, with especial reference to the Portland Marine Hospital, a clause to the effect that Maine workmen shall have preference, you are advised that the enclosed copy indicates this Department's position with respect to labor in connection with projects authorized under the Emergency Relief and Construction Act.

"Very truly yours,
"FERRY K. HEATH,
"Asst. Secty of the Treasury."

Treasury Department's Ruling

"In connection with construction work authorized prior to the enactment of the Emergency Relief and Construction Act, approved July 21, 1932, this Department has had no control over the labor employed by contractors, the Comptroller General of the United States having ruled that contractors cannot be limited to any particular class of labor. The Department has, nevertheless, in connection with all work under its control endeavoring to induce contractors to restrict themselves to local labor as far as available and competent, and the majority of them have shown a very laudable willingness to cooperate with the Government in this matter.

"The present practice is to direct engineers to make, immediately upon their arrival to take charge of construction work, an investigation with a view to determining what rates of wages the Department may be justified in considering as the prevailing local ones in each case. Where an engineer is unable to reach conclusions satisfactory to those concerned, the question is, in accordance with the terms of the wage law, referred to the Secretary of Labor for a final decision. Department engineers are also instructed to obtain from the contractors a statement as to their position with respect to the employment of local labor.

"The recent Emergency Relief and Construction Act, which appropriates $100,000,000 for the construction of certain Federal buildings, provides that:

"'So far as practicable, no individual directly employed on any such project shall be permitted to work more than 30 hours in any one week, and that in the employment of labor in connection with any such project, preference shall be given, where they are qualified, to ex-service men with dependents.'

"It is to be noted that the provisions above quoted will affect only work coming under Emergency Relief and Construction Act. They will not apply to uncompleted work specifically provided for by previous acts."

Green Says Legislature Has Power to Govern Judge's Activities

Asserting that it is within the power of State Legislatures to govern the activities of the courts, and in criticism of a statement made by Benjamin F. Cleaves, to the effect that "we should not in any way interfere with the activities of the judiciary," President William Green wrote the following to Secretary Clarence R. Burgess of the Maine State Federation of Labor, under date of February 18th:

"Dear Sir and Brother:—The assertion of Benjamin F. Cleaves, representing the Associated Industries of Maine, that "we should not say to our courts you shall or shall not do certain things," is a ridiculous statement. The courts of your State are created by the Legislature and it has the power at any time to enact legislation to govern their activities."

It will be appreciated it, when making purchases from our advertisers you will please mention The Labor News.

Northeastern Public Service Co.

NEW ENGLAND DIVISION

Caribou Water, Light & Power Co.
Colby Light & Power Co.
Eastport Water Co.
Grafton Water Co.
Greenville Water Co.
Guilford Water Co.
Hampton Water Works Co.
Hartland Water Co.
Mars Hill & Blaine Water Co.
Mechanic Falls Water Co.
Millbury Water Co.
Mystic Valley Water Co.
New Sweden Light & Power Co.
North Berwick Water Co.
Norway Water Co.
Oxford Water Co.
Penobscot County Water Co.
Presque Isle Water Co.
Provincetown Light & Power Co.
Salisbury Water Supply Co.
Sangerville Water Supply Co.
Skowhegan Water Co.
Southwest Harbor Water Co.
Stockton Springs Water Co.
Waldoboro Water Co.

New England Office; 142 High Street, Portland, Maine

Under The Capitol Dome

(By the State House Observer)

ATTITUDE OF REPUBLICAN SOLONS WHO OPPOSE PROGRESSIVE LEGISLATION IS DISAPPOINTING TO FRIENDLY GROUPS

Had Expected Trouncing Administered at State and Municipal Elections Would Act as Warning and Cause Them to Broaden Their Views on Remedial Legislation —Numerous Cases of Somersaulting Recorded Thus Far.

The attitude maintained by Republican solons in opposing practically all progressive legislation is greatly disappointing, and especially so following the severe trouncing administered their party at the September elections, and also at the city elections held recently, when six Democratic mayors were elected to replace Republicans in what were considered solidly Republican bailiwicks.

That those solons who have maintained what is termed a hide-bound attitude up to the writing will be compelled to do some tall explaining to their constituents after the close of the present session, is most apparent, judging from expressions heard from all parts of the State, where the people are hopeful that something besides partisan politics will dominate their activities during the present session.

The election of Governor Brann and other State officials, and a Democratic Congressman, was not without consideration on the part of the electorate that a change from the old methods of administering the affairs of the State was desired.

Old age pensions, unemployment insurance, minimum wage legislation, the 48-hour law for women and children, anti-injunction, "yellow dog" contracts and other remedial laws were forcibly brought to the attention of the people throughout the State campaign, and there isn't an iota of doubt but what many a Republican solon was elected in the belief that these and other measures in the interest of the people at large would receive their support.

But, this far, that frozen attitude which in past years caused disappointed looking toward the administration of the conditions of wage earners to be sent to the morgue, prevails this year, except that it is done under the guise of "economy." In other words, the opponents resort to the business depression and the shortage of money, when consigning these documents to the "ought not to pass" column.

Labor and all friends of progressive legislation throughout the State held hopes that the present Legislature was going to be an improvement over those of recent years. They were justified in this opinion on numerous occasions pledges of support had been made by solons during their pre-election campaign speeches.

For instance, it is said Rep. Marion Martin had pledged herself to support the Old Age Pension bill in speeches made at Bangor. Imagine the shock received by supporters of the bill when, at the hearing, she was the only person who spoke in opposition.

Numerous instances of this character occurred at other hearings, and sponsors of these bills marked "ought to pass," are wondering of to what will happen to them when they reach the House and Senate.

According to old-timers who have been attending sessions for a number of years, at no previous session have the friends of progressive legislation been so numerous, and the solons so assiduously in convincing legislators that these measures should be favorably reported.

However, "while there's life there's hope," as the old saying goes, and undaunted because of failure to secure favorable reports on several important measures, representatives of Labor and friends are hopeful that other important measures not as yet reported, will receive more favorable consideration.

OPPONENTS OF SALES TAX AT HEARING CONTEND BURDEN WOULD BE SHIFTED TO POORLY-PAID WAGE EARNERS

Representatives of the State Federation of Labor, Chambers of Commerce, Legislators, Merchants and Others Appear in Opposition at Hearing—Strong Battle Looms On Floor of Legislature.

The proposed sales tax is meeting with much solid opposition. It does not please the retail merchants, and as for the ultimate consumer, he is voicing his objections individually and through his duly appointed spokesman. This was made evident at the hearing before the Legislative Committee on Taxation, where the controversial subject of a sales tax received warm and earnest discussion.

In effect, the merchants claim that this would be in reality, a capital tax, instead of a sales tax. The cost of collection and administration was also referred to as something that would be expensive.

Among the chief objectors appeared Clarence R. Burgess, legislative agent for the Maine State Federation of Labor. He declared that he considered the sales tax would unjustly shift the burden from those who are now able to pay, and would place it instead on the backs of the poorly-paid wage earners." In this contention, he voiced the pronouncement of the American Federation of Labor, which has gone on record as opposed to the sales tax.

Charles E. Gurney, appearing for the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and others, supported Mr. Burgess. Mr. Gurney claimed that this method of taxation was new and untried and that experience at hand did not justify such a step.

For the sales tax, appeared Senator Blaisdell of Hancock, author of the bill. He claimed that such a law had been adopted with benefit in other sections of the country, and created a little stir when he declared that "as everybody would have to pay the tax based on his purchases, it was fair and just!"

As to the specific effect of the tax, he explained that it could not be equalized but would be credited back to cities and towns in the State. One result would be to lift the burden off the farmer and the land-owner, as well as the citizens at large. All would have to pay their share of the tax, in proportion to their purchases of goods.

Ralph Holmes, of Androscoggin, appearing in the capacity of a private citizen, declared that the property owner was sinking under the present burden of taxes and that a special session of the Legislature might have to be called to provide relief by other tax legislation.

In opposition to the tax were recorded the Biddeford and Waterville Chambers of Commerce, as well as many prominent Portland merchants. Sheer necessity for the raising of additional revenue is the only apparent reason for considering the sales tax at all, especially at this time. Its passage means a strong battle on the floor of the Legislature, with the issue very much in doubt.

Old Age Pensions Ably Defended by President Daggett

The Legislative Pensions Committee, at a recent public hearing, was faced with this practical question, of old age pensions: "What is to become of the poor and aged workman who can no longer ply his craft? Since he must be supported by somebody, somehow, upon whom is that care and burden to fall?"

Hitherto, the State has gotten rid of this problem by the traditional and immemorially-established "poorhouse," so-called. But today, with the ever-increasing demands upon the strength and endurance of the workers, the economically unfit are being turned out in masses. Obviously, the poorhouses which cared for a few social derelicts of past generations are now totally inadequate to handle this pressing problem.

Speaking in favor of the general proposition of old age pensions, Robert E. Daggett, president of the Maine State Federation of Labor, denounced the ordinary poorhouse plan as an un-American method of caring for the old and helpless. He declared that the present system of aiding the helpless by means of the poorhouse, was not profitable even to the State itself, and that money could be saved by adopting the old age pension system which is already in successful operation in many other parts of the country.

Veritable Cesspool of Body Politic

Perhaps the strongest condemnation of the poorhouse, as such, came from J. W. Brown of Woolwich, who stigmatized it as a veritable cesspool of the body politic, the last refuge for the ill-starred and socially degenerate. He decried the present inhumane industrial system which imposed undue hardships of toil upon the workers, shortening the work-life and prematurely making them public dependents. Commercial rapacity was fast relegating to the discard all but the most young and active. Deliberate skill and nominal physical strength were being hustled away under the high speed

(Continued on Page 7)

The Labor News

Official Newspaper of the
MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
Published Monthly by
THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR
Under Supervision of Robert E. Dagrett, Frank C. McDonald, Alonzo F. Young and Clarence R. Burgess, Comm.
Office: 19 Chapel St., Augusta, Maine
Telephone Augusta 1779

The Official Organ of Organized Labor in Maine, Devoted to the Promotion of the Welfare of the Wage Earner and the Prosperity of Industry Through a Better Understanding and Cooperation Between Employer and Employe.
An Exponent of a Square Deal for Both Sides. Constructive in Policy. Independent in Politics.

Subscription, One Year 50 Cents. Price per Copy, 5 Cents

Entered as second-class matter November 14, 1922, at the Post Office at Augusta, Maine, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

President—Robert E. Dagrett, 13 Pleasant St., Waterville
Treasurer—P. H. Fitzgerald, 35 W. Crescent St., Augusta
Secretary and Legislative Agent—Clarence R. Burgess, 19 Chapel St., Augusta

Vice-Presidents
1st District—Frank C. McDonald, 46 Gilman St., Portland
2nd District—Joseph A. Ellis, 24 Orange St., Lewiston
3rd District—H. W. Sanborn, 148 Sewall St., Augusta
4th District—Alonzo F. Young, 23 Main St., Bar Harbor
5th District—Frank M. Ferry, 153 Congress St., Millinocket

MARCH, 1933

Divorce "Affiliates" From Banks

Banking Reform Necessary to Restore Shattered Public Confidence

The proposal to divorce all "affiliated" investment houses from commercial banks is at once so just and reasonable that it is surprising that any right-minded person could have objected to it. It has come to pass that a bank which has an investment affiliate, or an affiliate which has an official connection with a bank, has become a hybrid thing, neither fish nor flesh. The old-time accepted tradition was that a bank was a place to deposit money for investment, or to receive trade facilities through commercial borrowing.

How can it be possible for a bank which is connected with an investment "affiliate" to regard with the same degree of prudence the interests of their banking depositors and commercial customers, and the great mass of the general public to whom they merely wish to sell securities? And if the funds of their own depositors can be diverted into securities, is it not a temptation so to do? And cannot the bank "tip off" the affiliate as to just which of their depositors may be good for a shake-down on some foreign government bonds, bought at a bargain price and intended to be sold at a fat profit?

The plain and simple truth is that speculation, in particular, has been the dominating motive for the creating of the "affiliates," tying up the banks with their controlled security distributors. Now that the country has been brought to the brink of ruin and the foolish and criminal aspect of this dual system has been so luridly shown up, it is time for a new deal, and a new re-arrangement of banks and security concerns.

There should be no official connection between them. The investment business is a business of its own. Banks are in a different class. This principle has been grossly violated.

It is time to admit the truth and turn over a new leaf. Public confidence has been sadly shattered. Reform is necessary to restore it. Only the solemn assurance of the President of the United States has availed to calm the just indignation of the public. But faith that the President stands for future honesty in banking must not be again destroyed. Banks must again be banks. Security-vending organizations are not banks, and should not be allowed to play a double role, to the great loss and inconvenience of the country at large.

Much credit is due Senator Carter Glass for bringing this banking evil to the attention of the Government. It was ridiculed by big bankers when suggested several months ago, but is now welcomed by no less a personage than the new president of the Chase National Bank, who stated a few days ago that President Roosevelt's action in line with Senator Glass' suggestion to divorce Banks and investment affiliates, is the one means whereby sound banking may be continued.

Set Men to Work; Cut Red Tape

So Says Former Governor Alfred E. Smith in Advocating Huge National Building Program

"Cut out the red tape and set men to work on Government building construction." That was the gist of the logic offered by former Governor Alfred E. Smith, appearing before the Senate Finance Committee at Washington, during the week.

In his vigorous and characteristic way, Mr. Smith declared that a national building program was the one way to get things in motion, and lighten the present industrial depression as being akin to an actual state of war.

It is not the number of men alone that counts. On any building project there will necessarily be involved other labor, such as that required to produce and deliver the various materials used in the project itself. This, in turn, would extend back to the source of such materials, creating an endless chain of industrial activity. But the start must be made somewhere. Work of this character could be financed by a Government bond issue, as was done in the days of the World War. He deprecated any form of cheapening the currency or reducing the gold content in the present dollar.

As to so-called "made work," or emergency work for the sole purpose of providing employment without anything of a substantial nature being accomplished, he warned against it as not being in the interest of the taxpayers who have to shoulder the burden.

After all the backing and filling, the whole problem comes down to a question of solvency. The individual unemployed man has neither position nor money. Industry is paralyzed, through the foolish adventures and mis-adventures of its much-lauded directors. Public confidence still reposes in Washington. Confidence is everything.

Bold and constructive action by the Government is the essential requisite of the times.

Feeding Hot Soup to a Corpse

Futility of Government Financial Support to Hugely Inflated Capital Structure

By means of galvanic wires, a corpse may be made to move and twitch, roll its eyes and do other things in which corpses do not ordinarily indulge. But, when the galvanic current is turned off—the dead remain the dead. Decay is inevitable!

Pumping vast quantities of United States Treasury money into corporations with swollen capital structures, such as some of our bankrupt railroads, has been likened to feeding hot soup to a corpse. If it takes the whole credit of the Nation to sustain such a false superstructure of capital organization, will not the Government itself be permanently obliged to maintain that financial support, or take over the property? In other words, is not wholesale Government financial aid the first step towards socialization of our railroads?

The banks are in a somewhat different class. They have been deluded and coerced by the representatives of the large international banks and bankers in New York, with connections in London and Paris. They have foolishly, but reluctantly, bought billions of worthless securities with their depositors' hard American money. What about the $90,000,000 loan to the Dawes' bank in Chicago, with its Insull support, if not domination?

There is nothing the matter with the country. The thieves, blunderers and plunderers have brought us to this ruin. The lesson is salutary and should be long remembered. We must ask ourselves, very seriously: "Is reorganization not the only rational way to treat gross capital inflation ever be made safe and rational for future investment? The money barons must just come down off their high glass stilts of preposterous finance. That is the one and only method of permanent reform.

Eternal Vigilance the Watchword

Men in Front Lines on Legislative Battlefield, Must Be Watchful of Labor-Law Destroying Enactments.

These are the days, more than ever, when vigilance on the part of labor is of the most vital importance. Labor itself is keenly aware of this fact and at all the various legislative centers there will be found official or unofficial representatives of the cause, prepared to defend their legislative attack, or to promote new and badly required legislation to lift some of the burden from the backs of the workers.

These men who hold the front lines in the legislative battlefield are doing this largely at their own time and expense, and entirely without any present guarantee of material reward. They see a duty to be done and gladly accept it, for the good of the cause and for the general uplift of humanity.

Especially, are they watchful of labor-law destroying enactments which may be proposed under the specious plea of a national emergency. Such legislation, if passed, would in time simply create another emergency. It would be but adding slow fuel to a flame.

Against indifference and opposition, undismayed by checks and defeats, this band of workers bend to their tasks. A decade or a generation may transpire before their constant efforts bear fruit.

The onbeckoning beacon of ultimate victory may pale and grow dim, at times, but it can never be extinguished.

Ever supporting the efforts of labor, also, is the Labor Press, itself handicapped in many ways similar to those which hamper and restrict its proponents before the Legislature.

The indifference of the public, who cannot take time to see the direct relation between the welfare of the working individual and the welfare of the community as a whole, is mainly responsible for this attitude of aloof non-comprehension.

Then, there is the apathy of the trade unionist himself, who delights in the funny pages and cross-word puzzles—but thinks a communication from President Green too deep, or too immaterial, to challenge his attention!

It is only the crushing iron grip of a depression, such as the present, that can make the torpid and self-absorbed worker realize that he is "not sufficient unto himself"! That, instead, he is a victim of certain economic and legislative laws which he has never taken the pains to understand.

To all that little faithful band who support the cause of labor before the Legislatures, everywhere, the thanks of a grateful body of labor will always go forth. But it is a sad truism that for its general redemption and regeneration, labor itself must supply both the initiative and the constant and sustained effort.

Well has it been said: "God helps those—who help themselves!" Only on that principle can labor win those just rewards to which it has long been entitled—and which the little band of the faithful workers and watchers shall ever and ever strive to win for their more heedless and drowsy brethren.

Big Business Man Sees the Light

"It Is the Workers Who Put Money in Circulation," Says Wrigley, Chewing Gum Magnate, in Urging Increase in Wages

Philip K. Wrigley, chewing gum magnate and baseball club owner, has made public announcement that he believes increased wages to workers will speed up business recovery.

"If we pay just enough for our workers to live on," said Mr. Wrigley, "we cannot halt the downward trend in general business conditions. The workers are the great consumers of products. They must have more than enough to cover the bare necessities of life if improvement is to be felt in a host of lines.

"I believe there are a number of concerns, even in times such as these, which might be able to increase their workers' pay, and continue to run at a profit. We are going to try it."

Mr. Wrigley may possibly be looking only for cheap advertising—though he doesn't sound like it. He will need courage as well as understanding to carry through his program.

The Big Business man who can see and say these things, as Philip K. Wrigley has done, has seen the light. Let us hope he follows it.

Let's Go After That 30-Hour Week

Why Not Take the Lead Right Here in This City? It's the One Means for Putting Millions Back to Work.

The 30-hour week will not come up and knock on the door. It won't walk in and sit down, uninvited. It won't push its way in and declare itself planted for life.

The 30-hour week will come, if and when, enough men and women go after it with sufficient energy and with sufficient organization back of them.

The 10-hour day didn't come begging to be let in.

The 8-hour day didn't come without a struggle. Every advance has come through struggle; first through wanting it, second through fighting for it.

Railroads may build new lines to meet "public convenience and necessity."

"Public convenience and necessity" demand the 30-hour week.

But there is, happily, no Government bureau to order it into effect. Only the wage earning population of America can do that.

President Green, addressing the Cincinnati A. F. of L. convention, said some strong organization would be selected to lead the fight for the 30-hour week.

That doesn't stop anybody who is ready to go right now. That doesn't hold anybody back.

What the 30-hour week would mean to industry, to wage earners, to business, to all America, must be clear, even to most employers.

Everybody says, "Well, who's going to start it?"

Employers who agree that it would be a fine thing, moan that they can't afford it.

They will be able to afford it when they have to grant it.

Railroads couldn't afford automatic couplers, automatic stokers and cab curtains—but they do afford them.

While plans mature, there must be some city in the United States in which a majority of employers and business men are far-seeing enough, courageous enough and eager enough for an end to unemployment, to at once agree upon a maximum 30-hour work-week.

Perhaps this city is the one? Why not try? Why not consult and see if it cannot be brought about?

Not only would such a step in this city—or any other city—be a step toward modern ideas and necessities, not only would it strike a great blow at unemployment, but it would immediately result in heralding the city's name around the world as the leader in a great departure.

It is something to be first. It is something to lead all others in doing the right thing.

Above all, it is something to be first to consider human welfare.

There is no insurmountable obstacle. What is needed is a reasoning together.

Hardship is not involved. Only helpfulness is involved.

Isn't there some city—perhaps this city—beyond the reach of the dominating, reactionary New York bankers whose philosophy is low wages and a sort of wage serfdom? Do those great money magnates rule everything?

Isn't there some city—in which human well-being and human intelligence can come first and be first?

Let conferences begin somewhere, to see what can be done. Organized effort sweeps all before it, always, when really organized and when armed with a just and fair cause. The cause now is just and fair. We can have the organization if the work is done.

If the 30-hour maximum work-week is made the main order of business in every meeting, not only of labor, but of church, fraternal, civic and other groups, the weight can be built up to bring about the inauguration of the maximum 30-hour work-week.

Some city can do it.

Is there any city that is more in need of addedhappiness and security among its wage earners?

Is there any city better fitted to lead this great procession toward a revival of prosperity through work for its citizens?

If there is virtue in right leadership, let us have it.

If there is to be a movement, let us move.

Let THIS city lead the way to the maximum 30-hour week, thereby assuring employment for the greatest possible number of workers. Putting back to work from 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 people within the next 10 years is considered an impossibility under present working standards. The 30-hour week would make possible increasing the purchasing power of millions, would relieve Federal, State and municipal treasuries from paying for welfare work, and is the one means for the re-establishment of normal business conditions.

President Talks Plainly to Governors

"Try to Keep Your Own House in Order," is His Pertinent Suggestion

The Labor News has contended for some time that the Governors of the various 48 States in this Union have not been doing their full duty and that they have not been making use of the powers invested in their high office. That this view is shared by the President is very pertinently shown when considering a portion of his recent address before the conference of Governors assembled in Washington.

Listen to what he says with regard to States failing to act for themselves and needlessly relying upon the Federal Government with regard to Federal aid in unemployment relief:

"The Federal Government, of course, does have to prevent anybody from starving; but it should not be called upon to perform that duty until all other agencies fail. The primary duty is that of the locality, city, county, town and, if they fail and cannot raise enough to meet the needs, the next responsibility is that of the States. The States, in turn, have to do all they can and, if it is proven that they cannot do any more, and that funds are insufficient, it is then the duty of the Federal Government to then step in."

No greater vindication of the position taken by The Labor News could be asked for. This paper insists, and reiterates, that the individual States have not done their duty, nor anything like their duty, in adopting practicable means to handle their own problems within their own political spheres.

It seems hard to say it, but if this country had a National Food Administrator, such as we gratuitously provided for Europe during the War, there would be little heard about starvation. Neither should we see the several States huddling about the coat-tails of Uncle Sam, like a parcel of small boys scared by a goblin on Hallowe'en night.

It is time for the Governors to stand upon their own official legs and cease looking to Uncle Sam as a paternal-minded pantryman.

IS REPEAL ON THE WAY?

Both Senate and House have sent the question of prohibition repeal back to the States.

There is argument as to whether the route chosen is the right one. Dry influence, counting as usual for more than its rightful strength, has seemingly led to the longest and most uncertain route.

Thirty-six States, by convention, must ratify the amendment.

Not soon will the distilleries begin operations, for it may take as long as four years. And who knows what social, industrial and political changes may take place in that time? Things can so happen that a shorter and better route can be interposed during so many years.

Meanwhile the thing to do is to work for repeal in every channel offered.

Modification seems certain shortly. The results of modification will almost surely hasten work for complete repeal.

DOESN'T GO FAR ENOUGH

New York garment workers who, were displaced by pressing machines are receiving a "dismissal wage," thanks to their membership in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. They are to receive $10 a week for eight weeks, as the result of negotiations between the union and the employers. If they had not been union workers, in all probability they would have been on the streets, without even a "dismissal wage" to partially compensate them for the loss of their jobs.

The "dismissal wage" is good as far as it goes, but it does not solve the problem of the man displaced by the machine. He is still out of a job and very fortunate if he can find another one. The only real remedy for the displacement of men by machines is shorter hours and higher wages, to take up the unemployment slack and increase purchasing power.

Unless this remedy advocated by organized labor is adopted, men will continue to be thrown out of work and prosperity will be a thing of the past, never to return.

Labor and Racketeers

By and large, the labor movement is America's cleanest movement. Labor can hold its head up in pride beside business, finance, politics or church.

Labor, exploited by the whole community in which it exists, the burden-bearer and the maker of all commodities, has a right to tell the cock-eyed world it is good and tired of the taunts of the holier-than-thou gentry who have done nothing to re-shape institutions and conditions so that the worker may have decent chance—"Bob" Maloney in Labor Independent.

Wage Chiselers

By GRANVILLE A. BEALS, The Mills, in The Textile World

Greenwich

tion of wages in the woolen and worsted trade is one of grave importance to the members of our industry. I am safe in saying that the far-sighted and able are concerned about the manufacturers and purchasing power living standards. Wages in many mills of their work ably low, both from the are now depleted and the business point of humanitarian should generally be high-view. Wages s we up against er, but what ai the situation is as follows:

Briefly stated, there has been great-In recent years rates of wages paid er disparity in this than there should in the different mi mes the mills have be, but in normal t their lack of mod-tried to make up for ficiency in mer-ern equipment and or attempting to chandising by paying, re wages and pay lower-than-avera sition on the met with sufficient opp keep their part of their workers t in line with wages at least somewhat oped mills. those paid by the better-equ become However, since conditions hat workers had in this industry, the and have met little resistance to off ertain wage cuts, some sorry spectacle of ce this situation, is taking advantage of wages below fair an decent levels.

Manufacturer Who Pays Decent Wages at Great Disadvantage

The actual number of mills that have been guilty of excesses in wage reductions may not be very large, and the units are in most cases small ones, but the influence of their aggregate output from the market standpoint has been sufficient to place those manufacturers who believe in paying decent wages at a great disadvantage. The market price for goods has been largely set by those low-wage-paying mills whose executives have apparently regarded labor as a commodity and who have—particularly where their plants are in the smaller, isolated towns—taken advantage of the fact that their workers, with nowhere else to turn, are in an almost hopeless position.

It is unfortunate that market prices have been set largely by these low-wage mills, but their volume of production has been sufficient to have a very definite effect on price sentiment in the goods market, which has in turn affected the merchandising of all units in the industry. The consequences have been that those mills that wish to maintain the living standards of their workers, rather than close down and throw their help out of employment, have been forced to cut their wages to meet market competition. This cycle has been followed more than once, demoralizing the goods market, as wage reductions have been passed on, in reduced selling prices, and working alike to the disadvantages of the workers as well as their employers.

Wage Rates in Class A Mills Fifty Per Cent Higher

Even now the rates of pay prevailing in some of the better-class mills are at least 50 per cent higher than those paid by some of the low-wage outfits. This disparity is bad enough in itself, but of greater importance to the industry is the fact that through the various moves and counter-moves the whole wage structure has been lowered and standards of living and purchasing power have been greatly impaired. The manufacturers are no better off than when this started and the workers are much worse off.

The problem, then, is to raise the whole minimum wage structure to a basis uniform throughout the trade for any given class of woolen or worsted mill work, in this manner following the wage practice in the cotton and men's wear worsted mills of England. I do not know how this can be accomplished.

Intelligent trade unionism which will cooperate with the manufacturers in the establishment of such uniform pay rates might be an answer to this problem, but the textile unions are in a difficult position themselves.

The only step that seems to give any promise at this time is to air the situation thoroughly. After all, we have an industry with the majority of its executives distressed as they contemplate this wage situation. All that the individual manufacturer who has the interests of his employes at heart can do is to pay as much more that the low-wage mills as he possibly can, but he is handicapped by the wage costs or his goods in comparison with the cheap goods prices of his low-wage competitors.

Favors Uniform Minimum Wages

If uniform minimum wages could be established for each of the various processes incidental to the manufacture of our products, and the low wage units brought up to this wage level, our workers would receive a fair living wage and the standards of living and purchasing power would be restored; manufacturers would be benefited for their sales would depend, not largely, as at present, on prices resulting from wage competition, but on their plant efficiency, on the quality of their products, their market reputation for style and service and on their ability as merchandisers. The cloth market lacking the adverse influence of price cuts occasioned by competitive wage reductions, would be stabilized.

I don't know what can be done but it does seem to me that if we talk enough about this subject, and get mad enough, that something will be done. At present we—and I refer to the better manufacturers and merchandisers of this industry—are stymied by the wage chiselers and must proceed as best we can in an industry which suffers from the unenviable position of being dominated by its worst elements.

"ANY MAN WOULD-WAIVE RIGHTS TO COMPENSATION TO SUPPORT FAMILY!"

Legislative Agent Robert J. Watt's Reply to Associated Industries' Representatives When These Attempted to Force Legislation Seeking to Destroy Present Workmen's Compensation Act in Massachusetts.

Boston, Massachusetts, March 10th—Organized labor was out in force to oppose before the Committee on Public Welfare 7 bills of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts for changes in the Workmen's Compensation Act. The opposition led by Secretary Watt of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, charged the bills were designed to destroy the Act.

One of the bills would allow applicants for employment to waive all rights to compensation before starting work. A second would eliminate payments for conditions not resulting in physical incapacity.

Watt Talks "Turkey" to Insurance Man

"This is just one more attempt," Mr. Watt declared, "to place the entire burden on the backs of those injured. In back of these bills is the fact that there are insurance companies which are today insolvent. I realize that is an astounding statement to make but I am prepared to prove it. Premiums are being paid to insurance companies, some of which may go out of business before the end of the year.

"The proponents have taken a long time to explain these bills," he continued. "That is not surprising because their case is weak enough. They haven't, however, told you the whole story: If a man who had been out of employment for a long time asked for work, under this legislation, an employer would tell him he would give him work if he waived his rights. You members know very well he would waive his rights to save his wife and children from starving. The important feature, however, is that no one would decide under what conditions his rights would be waived. The legislation is preposterous.

"As far as the other measure is concerned, I think it is fair to say that practically everyone over 40 has some form of a pre-existent disease. This, also, is crazy legislation. The whole intent of this program is to destroy the Act; an Act which is expensive and will continue to be as long as it is. Servants, through allied directorates, are stealing 40 cents on every dollar of premium."

"Small Boy Play," Says President Squibb

Samuel Squibb, president of the International Union of Granite Cutters, said the Associated Industries and employers in introducing the bills were acting like small boys who throw a handful of stones at another boy, hoping one will land. He said these bills will indirectly do what some of the others seek to due directly.

conference stated, "mean ruin to employers who would like to pay a living wage in competition with these starvation wages." The creation of adequate machinery to maintain fair wage standards, the Governor declared, would in effect "prevent wage standards from being set by the least conscionable employers."

Gov. Lehman's plea was based on the premise that "the transcendent goal of present day effort, governmental and private, is recovery." He maintained that wage-slashing, by depressing buying power and subjecting prices to wide fluctuations, was retarding the forces of recovery.

Governor Urges New York Adopt Minimum Pay Act

Pointing out that the sweatshop has returned, Gov. Herbert H. Lehman in a special message urged the Legislature to enact a law setting a "bottom level" below which the wages of women and children shall not be allowed to go.

In his message, the Governor declared that the conscientious employer was suffering from the unfair competition of "reckless wage reductions below decent levels of subsistence."

"Such unfair trade practices are inimical to recovery," Lehman wrote to the Legislature. "I am confident I voice the needs of industry in urging the importance of assuring a bottom level of wages so as to avoid the continued downward spiral of lower wages, lower prices, lower purchasing power and higher unemployment."

Lehman's recommendations followed the unanimous findings of a conference of representatives of labor departments of eight Eastern industrial States, called by Gov. Joseph B. Ely of Massachusetts a month ago. While admitting that it would be better if the Federal Government had power to eliminate unfair wage cutting, he expressed belief that other States would follow New York's example, and said, "I covet for our State this leadership."

The wage cutting conditions, this money, their findings were either ignored or absolutely and illogically opposed!

President Roosevelt takes over the responsibilities of his high office under circumstances more adverse than at any time, perhaps, within the memory of living man. An unbalanced treasury, a paralyzed banking system, myriads of unemployed, pressing foreign problems and domestic dilemmas, all have come to him as the inheritance of 12 years of uninterrupted misrule. It is a most appalling stewardship which the new President is called upon to assume. It might well crush a man of ordinary strength, and it will tax the ability of even a Roosevelt, in the best tradition of that name.

The stinging rebuke of the so-called money-changers in the temple, meaning the now discredited high financiers, will give the people new heart. They are at last to have a friend and advocate at court. No longer will they be allowed to be plundered with governmental sanction and legal immunity. Honesty will replace chicanery in the great marts of trade and finance.

Though men may disagree upon any specific recommendations of President Roosevelt, nobody can doubt his courage, his honesty and his unswerving determination to devote his strength and talents in the best service of all the people, all the time, as God may direct him to logically recognize it and to put it into prompt and effective being.

A New Deal for the United States

Courage, Red-blooded American Courage, is Dominant Note of President Roosevelt's Ringing Inaugural Address

"This is the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly. Nor need we shrink from honestly facing conditions in our country today. This great nation will endure as it has endured, will revive and will prosper. The only thing we have to fear is—fear itself, nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

With these memorable words, the newly inaugurated President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, took over the reigns of Government. While the remainder of his speech breathes broad and strong constructive purposes, nothing so impressed the listening throngs in Washington, and throughout the Nation and the outside world, as the ringing opening declaration that this new Government would not be a government of fear and hesitation, palliation and compromise, indecision and pathless wandering. Mistakes, the President may make, but they will be made only out of the superabundance of honest courage, not out of the heart of despair and the soul of weakness.

For, after all, courage underlies and controls, shapes and dominates the path of true wisdom. There can be no wisdom in fear, for fear and rational judgment can never abide in one and the same heart and mind at one and the same time.

Was it in fear and trembling, palsied hesitation and base subterfuge, that the founders of this Republic first brought this government into political existence? Never was greater courage required to be shown than that which caused the signers of the Declaration of Independence to affix their names to the immortal document which proclaimed us a nation of free men!

Had they stopped to count the cost of possible failure, this government would never have come into being. Boldly, they threw into the scale of destiny "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor." Nothing was reserved.

Hitherto, we have had a government of plain evasion of responsibility, a commission form of government whereby great and vital questions were not met and decided with bold and frank leadership but were committed to the consideration of political nominees.

And the tragic part of the whole proceeding is that after such commission reports had been rendered, after an immense expenditure of time and

SAYS PRISON SHOPS ENRICH CONTRACTORS

E. J. VOLZ

E. J. Volz, president of the International Photo-Engravers' Union, who charges that prison labor contractors are getting rich during the depression by selling the cheap and inferior goods manufactured by convicts. He urges that an intensive campaign be waged this year for passage by State Legislatures of legislation supporting the Hawes-Cooper Act, passed by Congress in 1929. The Hawes-Cooper Act enables a State to adopt legislation preventing the sale of prison made products on the open market.

Gouging Contractors Coerce Workmen Into Signing Away Rights

The ways of some government job contractors are as dark and as vain as ever pictured by Bret Harte. There is more than one way to skin a rabbit—and more than a dozen ways to skin a helpless employe. These tricks and con games include making the employe subscribe for stock, which he does not want, compelling him to waive rights for accident insurance, and other tricks and schemes to beat him out of his just dues, and still keep precariously inside the law.

From Washington comes another thimble-ringing scheme. It is the plan of making the workers agree to "subscribe" to a certain realty deal, in which they have no interest, to an extent that virtually robs them of $3 a day from their wages. However, the Government will have the last say. The contracts were awarded under the prevailing wage law, and it takes two parties to make or alter a contract. Moreover, an agreement of any kind, by coercion, has no legal or binding effect. The whole matter simply shows that avarice stalks the Capital and that Labor is marked out as the prey. This time, the plot may fail.

DO SOMETHING!

Remember, you are a part of your union and if you are not doing something for it you are a deadhead and of no value to it. Do something! Do all that you can! You owe much to yourself and your family.

One p. c. Assessment Wins by Almost Two to One Vote

According to a communication received from headquarters of the International Typographical Union by officials of Portland Typographical Union No. 84, the referendum vote on the one per cent assessment taken last month, was passed by a vote of 30,000 to 16,335.

The communication outlined conditions under which payments will be made, and this information will be conveyed to members by the secretary.

It is estimated the assessment will net the International Union about a million dollars within a year, which is to be used in rebuilding the general fund, which because of depressed conditions, had reached a low level.

FAVOR APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT TYPO. OFFICIAL TO BE STATIONED IN BOSTON, IN CHARGE OF NEW ENGLAND AFFAIRS

(From The Worcester Labor News)

Much expense and delay incurred in securing information and advice from an international official, recently incurred by Pawtucket Typographical Union No. 182, was the means for starting a movement at last Sunday's meeting of Worcester Typographical Union, for the establishment of a district office in Boston, with one of the international officers or someone to be chosen by the executive council to be permanently in charge.

This suggestion followed a report of the Pawtucket situation by President Warren, in which he stated that William P. Cantwell, one of the international officials of the Pawtucket Union had been unable to reach President Howard, Secretary Randolph or other members of the executive council for several days, and that telephone bills to the amount of nearly $50 had been incurred in this futile effort.

It so happened that all leading officials of the I. T. U. had absented themselves from the Indianapolis headquarters at the same time. President Howard and Secretary Randolph had left for Colorado Springs when the Pawtucket Union's letter reached headquarters, and by the time the telephone message was received, they had left for other cities en route to headquarters.

As a consequence, considerable time was lost in securing the desired information, which was not available until a week later, when Organizer Weinlein was despatched to assist the union in outlining plans for meeting the threatened lockout by the publishers of the Pawtucket Times.

To avoid the possibility of repetitions of this character, it was suggested that Local 165 submit a resolution at the next annual convention, favoring the establishment of regional districts with Boston as the point from which the New England States will be served; one at New York to cover the Eastern States, exclusive of New England; a Chicago office to serve the Middle West; one in Atlanta, Ga., for the Southeastern States; in Denver, to cover the West and Southwest; and one at San Francisco to cover the Pacific Coast.

It was thought that the large amount of traveling expenses incurred by organizers would almost suffice to cover the expense necessary to maintain these permanent offices, and it was felt that affiliated unions could be better served under such a plan.

Members of local unions throughout the jurisdiction have been scanning the financial report issued monthly by the I. T. U., with more scrutiny than ever before. This, of course, is due entirely to present depressed conditions, and they are naturally interested in seeing that expenses, such as salaries and other extras, which were permitted to mount up during prosperous years, are readjusted to meet present conditions.

It is through this readjustment that it may be possible to establish the suggested regional districts, thereby placing all affiliated unions in a position where they will be assured of quick and efficient service.

One suggestion offered by a member of Local 165 during the week, as a means for effecting further economies, was the elimination of the annual convention this year. This is in line with several other international unions, which because of reduced per capita tax and other receipts, made this necessary.

Not only is it most essential this year to conserve the funds of the international union, but those of local unions as well, whose funds have been greatly depleted due to non-payment of dues by the nemployed members.

Few local unions, aside from those in the larger cities, are able to pay from $300 to $1,000 to send delegates to a convention. While everyone realizes the necessity and importance of these annual conventions, present conditions demand the strictest economy, and this be offered as a means for diverting these expenses to other essential channels.

THOMAS ARMOUR, A MEMBER OF MIAMI CARPENTERS' LOCAL 933, HELPED TO SAVE PRESIDENT-ELECT ROOSEVELT'S LIFE

Although not having been mentioned in news dispatches which chronicled the attempted killing of President-elect Roosevelt, Miami newspapers are giving prominence to the fact that Thomas Armour, a member of Miami Carpenters' Local 933, is credited with being "the man who saved the President-elect from being killed."

The story, as told by the Miami Labor News, which quoted the Miami Herald, stated that "by Mr. Armour's prompt action with the help of Mrs. W. F. Cross, in holding the man's pistol hand up in the air as the last of the shots were fired, diverted his aim."

"Mrs. Cross was along-side the assassin when he stood up on a bench and began firing at President-elect Roosevelt. Armour was immediately behind Zangara and Mrs. Cross. The Union Carpenter was photographed as the President-elect's savior by newspaper photographers and was asked to go to the police station and give his statement."

Commenting editorially on the dastardly affair, the Miami Labor News says:

"As a representative of organized Labor of the United States, organized Labor of Miami disavows any desire to attempt to remedy working conditions through any such means but to voice the belief that Franklin Delano Roosevelt will take every means at his command when he enters the White House to improve the conditions of the masses. **We believe also that while this democracy is a haven for the oppressed of other countries, the utmost vigilance should be exercised in keeping so-called undesirable aliens from our shores men who have a desire to kill all presidents and kings.' There should be no place in our melting pot for men of such ideals."**

FORMER GOVERNOR SMITH

(Continued from Page 1)

to him to break off diplomatic relations.

There were some, of course—there always are—who would have had us break off relations with France and go to war with her. But those were men who had become hysterical in their devotion to royalty and all it then implied.

Happily, Jefferson was Secretary of State at the time and he stood in the way of the war hawks.

A Refusal to Face Reality

Now there can be commercial relations between two nations that have no diplomatic relations at all. We have commercial relations with Russia now, as we have had for years. Our manufacturers would like to have much closer commercial relations with that enormous country. They are not afraid that they will be able to collect on the goods they sell.

We know that because of a famous, but secret, banquet given the commercial representatives of Russia here in New York some years ago. The big banks, U. S. Steel, great financiers and industrialists were at the board, and the speakers laid stress upon the fact that in business relations they had always found the Russians dependable.

But it was secret because most of the banqueters in the open thought it wise to appear hostile to everything Russian and particularly to recognition. That was sheer hypocrisy—a refusal to face reality.

Trade is What We Need

Thus Al Smith says:

"I believe that we ought to recognize Russia. I do not know any reason for not doing it."

The reason given, that we do not want Communism in this country, is not a sensible reason, since the recognition of the established regime in Russia does not transfer Communism to us.

And then Smith, who is a downright man, says something else:

"There is no use in trading with them under cover. We are doing it. Through the Amtorg, the Russian trading company, our material and stuff is getting into Russia. We might as well be represented there and let them be represented here at Washington and let us do business with them in the open."

That not only would be more dignified than hypocritical under-cover stuff, but would be more profitable. It unquestionably would mean an enormous increase in Russian trade. Other nations are no more enamored of Communism than we have their representatives in Moscow seeking trade. They have an advantage.

There is No Danger of Communism Here

The only reason that can be given for withholding recognition year after year is that we do not like Communism—which is no reason at all. On this point, Mr. Smith said:

"I do not believe in being against them just because they have a form of government that we do not like. Jefferson told us in our Declaration of Independence that any time we did not like this government we can put it down and build it up in the way we want it."

But most of us are satisfied with this Government of ours, with our political institutions, and we gave evidence of it in the recent election. There has been more human misery in America in the last three years than ever before, with millions denied the right to work, with millions more in the country denied the right to a living profit on their labor in the fields, and yet no party hostile to our institutions made any gains.

And the Communists polled a vote so insignificant that it was scarcely worth mentioning in the reports. With so many in abject misery, it would not have been beyond understanding had great numbers voted Communistic as a protest, and without any partiality for Communism at all.

But they did nothing of the sort; because Communism is repugnant to the American temperament. There is no danger of Communism here.

ROSTER OF ORGANIZATIONS

AFFILIATED WITH THE

MAINE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR

Organization	Secretary	Address
Lewiston Central Labor Union	J. A. Elie,	24 Orange St.
Woodland Central Labor Union	James A. Poole,	Woodland
Augusta Central Labor Union	H. W. Sanborn,	148 Sewall St.
Portland Central Labor Union	George R. Haney,	P. O. Box 962
Millinocket Central Labor Union	F. M. Perry,	153 Congress St.
Augusta Building Trades Council	Charles R. Finley	82 Child St.
Bar Harbor Building Trades Council	George M. Stanley,	Bar Harbor
Maine Conference of Bricklayers	T. J. Mahoney	28 North St. Portland
AUGUSTA		
Painters & Decorators' 541	Bert D. Ellis,	7 Murray St.
Barbers' Union No. 493	Elery M. Folsom,	298 Water St.
Plumbers' Union No. 643	Charles E. Chase,	9 Gilman St.
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 333	Frank S. Douglas,	10 Spruce St.
Paper Makers' Union No. 84	Fred J. Vervilliip,	19A No. Belfast Av.
Federal Labor Union No. 11,434	P. H. Fitzpatrick,	25 W. Crescent St.
St. Railway Employes' Union, No. 724	Walter Eagley,	139 Grove St.
Carpenters & Joiners' Union No. 914	Ira H. Foster; Box 184,	Wash's Stage
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 57	Arthur Bechard,	28 Franklin St.
Hod Carriers' Union No. 188	W. Beaulin, 4 Leland Block,	Bridge St.
PORTLAND		
Printing Pressmen's Union No. 22	C. N. Cushman,	80 Hastings St.
Stage Employes' Union No. 114	C. R. Haskell,	Bay St.
Moving Picture Operators' No. 458	G. E. Francis,	235 Highland Ave.
Bricklayers & Masons' Union No. 2	Thomas J. Mahoney,	28 North St.
Stereotypers & Electrotypers' No. 111	F. W. York, 8 Revere St.,	Woodfords
Machinists' Union No. 1467	F. P. Coppenger,	16 Atlantic Ave.
Electrical Workers' Union No. 567	A. F. Eagles,	142 High St., rm. 306
Carpenters & Joiners Union No. 517	John S. Burchill,	453 Congress St.
Painters & Decorators' Union No. 237	William Crossley,	723 Congress St.
Typographical Union No. 66	Carl C. Verrill,	813 Broadway
Plumbers & Steamfitters No. 217	John F. Kane,	36 Waterville St.
Hod Carriers Union No. 8	Michael Curran,	44 Greenleaf St.
Electrical Workers' Union No. 333	Raymond Boudway,	14 Gilman St.
St. Railway Employes, Div. 714	Edward W. Cobb,	17C Ocean St.
Cigar Makers' Union No. 470	George Weever,	P. O. Box 864
WOODLAND		
Carpenters & Joiners' Union, No. 2400	H. Townsend,	Woodland
Paper Makers' Union No. 147	C. F. Murphy,	Woodland
Electrical Workers' Union No. 1057	F. H. Fountain,	P. O. Box 459
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 330	Edward Hanson,	Woodland
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 27	James A. Poole,	Woodland
Machinists Union No. 1490	William Porter,	Woodland
BAR HARBOR		
Plumbers and Steamfitters' No. 243	Elliott B. Dorr,	Bar Harbor
Painters & Decorators' Union, No. 142	Arno M. Jordan,	5 Ash St.
Electrical Workers' No. 222	H. R. Young,	25 Prospect St.
Carpenters & Joiners No. 459	M. R. Sawyer,	Bar Harbor
LEWISTON		
Carpenters & Joiners No. 407	J. A. Elie,	24 Orange St.
St. Railway Employes, Div. 721	Thomas McDonough,	91 Elm St.
Stage Employes Union No. 634	C. F. Coquillard,	157 Pine St.
Painters & Decorators Union No. 962	A. Lajoie,	251 Black St.
MILLINOCKET		
Carpenters & Jointers' No. 655	Geoffrey Baker,	52 Katahdin Ave.
Paper Makers' Union No. 27	Henry Martell,	Millinocket
P. S. & P. M. W. Union No. 17	Walter M. Evans	P. O. Box 103
Sta. Firemen's Union No. 69	Percy Evers,	455 Penobscott Ave.
BANGOR		
Bricklayers & Masons' No. 7	W. C. Sturtevant,	13 Jackson St.
Molders' Union No. 101	Chester Shephard,	26 Emerson St.
Stage Employes' Union No. 198	Richard W. Gustin,	Box 107, Bangor
MADISON		
P. S. & P. M. W., No. 17	Elmer F. Nute,	P. O. Box 1024
Paper Makers' Union No. 73	Hayden Wallace,	105 Old Point Ave.
MECHANIC FALLS		
Paper Makers' Union No. 104	R. L. Bangs,	Mechanic Falls
EAST MILLINOCKET		
Paper Makers' Union No. 162	Charles B. Jordan,	E. Millinocket
P. S. & P. M. W., No. 87	George Adams,	E. Millinocket
NORTH JAY		
Quarry Workers' Union No. 4	L. A. Tobin,	North Jay
WATERVILLE		
Carpenters & Joiners Union No. 848	Luke N. Morrell,	R. F. D. No. 1
VINALHAVEN		
Paving Cutters' Union No. 24	Elmer W. Simmers,	Vinalhaven
RUMFORD		
Journeyman Barbers Union No. 101	Jaffey J. Paradis,	90 Congress St.
ROCKLAND		
Plumbers Union No. 570	F. J. Overlock,	48 Talbot Ave.
BATH		
Plumbers & Steamfitters' No. 717	John J. Mulcahy,	287 Center St.
BIDDEFORD		
Barbers' Union No. 708	Thomas A. Bouchard,	83 Center St.
BREWER		
Painters & Decorators No. 682	Richard Barker, R. F. D. 6,	Castor Av.
LISBON FALLS		
Paper Makers' Union No. 22	Joseph Byrus,	Lisbon Falls

Shop at

J. R. LIBBY CO.

Portland's Favorite Department Store for 65 Years!

Mail and Phone Orders Given Personal Attention

New England Public Service Company

Central Maine Power Co.
9 Green Street
Augusta, Maine

Cumberland County Power & Light Company
Portland, Maine

DELAY IN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

An indication of what labor will be up against in its fight for unemployment insurance is given by happenings in New York. An unemployment insurance bill, supported by labor, was introduced in the Legislature and prospects for it seemed very bright.

But now a joint legislative committee, which had previously given assurances it would recommend an unemployment insurance bill, has taken a sudden flop and is opposing such legislation at this session on the ground that it will result in dismissal of part-time workers and add to unemployment. As a result of the committee's action, Albany dispatches say it is probable no unemployment insurance bill will pass in the near future.

The New York committee urged further study of unemployment insurance, which it said could not help the unemployed now. No one expected unemployment insurance to give immediate help. But there is no reason why a beginning should not be made at setting up systems of unemployment reserves, so they can help in the next depression. Labor understands this and will go on with its fight, despite apparent setbacks such as the one in New York.

MILLINOCKET

URGE HEARST'S COMPANY TO USE AMERICAN PRODUCTS IN PUBLICATION OF ITS LARGE STRING OF NEWSPAPERS

"If the large string of newspapers published by William Randolph Hearst were printed on newsprint made in American mills, present conditions in Maine and other mills in this country would not suffer from idleness such as now being experienced."

This was the principal subject discussed at last week's meeting of the Millinocket Central Labor Union, when it was reported that nearly all, if not all the newsprint used in the printing of Hearst newspapers came from foreign countries.

"This is a serious situation," one delegate said, and noting with interest a number of recent articles which appeared in the Boston American, one of 20 or more newspapers included in the Hearst syndicate, besides a number of magazines with nation-wide circulation, strongly advocating the "Buy American" movement, said: "I think this places Mr. Hearst in a rather inconsistent position."

Believing that this condition should be called to his attention, and for that matter to the attention of all publishers, Secretary Frank W. Perry was directed to communicate with the Hearst Publishing Co., giving a full explanation regarding conditions affecting paper mills in the State of Maine, and urging Mr. Hearst to confine his purchases to American-made newsprint, and by this means assist in improving a situation in this industry that is becoming more and more deplorable.

For the most part, the larger paper mills in Maine are operated under union conditions. Wage schedules, while having been reduced commensurate with depressed conditions, have been maintained on what are based present living standards, providing there is sufficient employment to keep employees working on full time.

As a consequence of this manifestation or interest in their employes on the part of manufacturers, competition from Russia, Finland and other countries where wages are deplorably low and with an inadequate tariff to protect the American product, is causing Maine and other newsprint mills in this country to greatly curtail production.

Hope was strongly expressed at the meeting that Congress will pass a tariff bill at this session that will put a stop to this unfair competition in pulp and newsprint, from foreign countries.

Journeymen Barbers Unable to Agree on Prices

Attempt on the part of the organizing committee of the Millinocket Central Labor Union, to reorganize the Journeymen Barbers, which, because of inability on their part to agree on a schedule of prices, proved of no avail. Further attempt, along this line will be made later.

BAR HARBOR

BELIEVES IN ECONOMY, BUT THIS SHOULD BE CONFINED TO MEANS WHEREBY WORKERS ONLY WOULD NOT SUFFER

Maine State Federation of Labor Official Suggests Abolishing of Luxuries and Other Leakages Permitted to Accumulate During Prosperous Years—Questions Sincerity of Those Who Confine Economy Preachments to Wage Reductions.

By ALONZO F. YOUNG, Vice President, Maine State Federation of Labor

While all Labor believes in rigid economy and drastic reductions in expenditures at this critical period, I maintain that this economy can be reached in local government as well as in State and Federal Government, viz: By the abolition of the many luxuries that were established in the years of prosperity; leakages in the many departments, careful supervision of all municipal contracts, so that they should be awarded on merit other than on friendship or pressure from any political group; that the lowest possible rate of interest be paid on notes and bonds; public ownership of all public utilities when and wherever possible and the absolute eradication of all politics as regards the maintenance and operation of all departments as established by law, governments. To this program, I sincerely believe every labor man would pledge his support.

I do not believe that all reductions of expenditures can be classed as economy. The so-called economy that is reached by reductions in wages and appropriations that affect a great majority of the wage earners' incomes can not be called economy. This is merely a curtailment of purchasing power which aggravates an already unbearable situation.

Great Losses Would be Entailed

I believe that the professional man, the merchant and the small employer, as a result they have been compelled suffer, if such a course is to be still further pursued.

All labor realizes that these people have been sorely affected during this period of economic stress. Their income has been greatly depleted and as a result they have been compelled to curtail many activities which prevailed during prosperous years. But I often wonder if the great captains of industry and the men who control our banking institutions, the heads of great corporations, trusts and syndicates and other giants of finance have ever felt the great privation or cold, hunger and the suffering that is relative thereto? I believe not, and I assert that labor the world over has felt all these things. Is it to be wondered at that we should claim we have suffered more acutely than any class?

In nearly all cases, advocating a reduction of appropriations and expenditures that affect the masses of wage earners are traceable to a selfish minority of capitalists, who hope to profit by a reduction in their taxes. A wholly selfish reason, as can readily be seen. Although it does not seem possible, they appear to have little difficulty in enlisting to their aid many people who, unless some few are financially rewarded from unseen sources, have everything to lose and practically nothing to gain.

The plea of the great industrialists has always been that labor takes advantage in times of prosperity to demand higher wages and better working conditions.

I ask, in all fairness, has advantage been taken of the laboring masses in this great depression?

I emphatically answer "yes," as has been adequately proven since 1929!

I firmly believe that the time is here when all labor, organized and otherwise, should carefully consider and study all recommendations of economy and reduction of expenditures, to the end that whatever action their deliberations may call for shall be for the benefit of the majority and not merely to satisfy the greed and selfishness of any individual or group of individuals.

Vice President Alonzo F. Young, in charge of the Fourth District for the Maine State Federation, reports there is very little activity in the building trades in Bar Harbor, and that prospects for Spring work do not at this time look very promising.

The many friends of R. L. White, local contractor, will be pleased to hear of his arrival home after spending the past winter in California, to which he went by boat through the canal and returned overland.

The Town meeting, held last week, saw a great turn-out of voters and, as in all government at this time, economy was the goal. The total appropriation for 1932 of $262,000 was reduced approximately $54,000 for the ensuing year.

Friends of organized Labor will be pleased to hear of the election of Everett Johnson as selectman and Frank Higgins as assessor. Both are members of Carpenters' Local 452. There was also a great fight made by Daniel Brewer, Local 457, candidate for road commissioner, who was defeated by only 98 votes in a total vote cast of 1567.

There was a mass meeting of Labor men held two weeks previous to the election, at which the following resolution was passed:

"We, as working men here assembled, do not pledge ourselves to support any particular candidate or measure, but are in favor of anything that will prove beneficial to the Town."

All working men will be greatly interested in the report made by Mr. Rockefeller's representative at the Town meeting, this to the effect that construction on the proposed $4,000,000 Rockefeller road will be started in the very near future. A great proportion of this money will be spent for labor. This will mean, in the opinion of many, the complete cure of unemployment on Mt. Desert Island.

DO IT YOURSELF!

Do not leave what you can do to somebody else to do. That is what weakens the union. The only way in which to strengthen a union is to increase its activity and augment its membership. When every member tries to do his or her bit the union invariably grows and gets stronger and better able to fight the battles of labor effectively.

NEW LABOR COMMISSIONER DOES NOT REGARD LABOR'S OPPOSITION AS AN EXPRESSION OF ILL WILL; WILL COOPERATE

Miss Perkins Praised President Green in Interview, Stating He Was Within His Rights and Glad He Did So Frankly and Openly—Says It Creates a More Wholesome Situation.

Washington, D. C., Mar. 8 (ILNS)—Asked to comment on the statement of William Green expressing organized labor's opposition to her appointment as Secretary of Labor, Frances Perkins said she did not regard the statement as an expression of ill-will against her and that she expected to

MISS FRANCES PERKINS

co-operate with representatives of the American Federation of Labor.

"Mr. Green and the American Federation of Labor are entirely within their rights," Miss Perkins replied to the first question put to her by the reporters. "I am glad they expressed themselves openly and frankly. It creates a more wholesome situation and I do not in any way regard it as an expression of ill-will against me."

After remarking that Mr. Green's statement was not to be interpreted as a refusal to co-operate with the Labor Department, Miss Perkins praised Mr. Green as "a man of great integrity, vision and patriotism."

To See Labor Representatives

"Inasmuch as Mr. Roosevelt will call a special session soon after his inauguration, there will be many matters for me to talk over with Mr. Green and the representatives of organized labor," she said. "And I certainly shall do so. If they cannot find the time to come and see me, I will hasten to see them."

Miss Perkins said that under her regime there will be prompt, regular and candid statistics of unemployment."

"There will be no coloring of facts and no conclusions will be drawn," she declared.

Favors Public Works

Asked whether she had any special plans to relieve unemployment, Miss Perkins said she had always advocated proper utilization of a public works program as one method of helping unemployment, not as a panacea "because there is no one panacea that can relieve all forms of unemployment."

Any stabilization program, she said, would have to include a definite improvement in standards of work and health, in the prevention of accidents, in the establishment of a basic minimum wage that would represent "the fair value of services" and in the rule of one day of rest in seven.

What Good Is the Union?

By H. W. SULLIVAN, Second Vice President of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers

"What is the good of the union?" is a question that is sometimes asked by men who hold membership cards in labor unions.

Some union men say that the unions are of no value because they were not able to stop wage reductions during this depression. Members of this type accept everything that comes their way when we are on the upward trend, but now they do a great deal of squawking because economic conditions make it impossible for the unions to make progress or even hold their own.

However, let us look at the situation in a fair manner and see if the unions have been of any benefit to the workers during this depression. I have recently spent considerable time in the State of Maine. I attended meetings at Madison, Millinocket, and East Millinocket. These three mills are union mills and working under a union shop agreement. Since this depression started, the workers in these mills have taken two wage reductions, the first one in 1921 averaging about five per cent, and the second one in 1932 averaging less than 10 per cent. We still have the union agreement in these mills, time and one half for all overtime, and other union conditions.

Howland Mill Operating Non-Union

There is another mill in this district known as the Advance Bag and Paper Company located at Howland. This mill was formerly a union mill and the wage schedule paid always compared very favorably with other union mills. This mill was shut down for a considerable period of time, but is now operating again, but operating under the open shop.

The workers failed to maintain their union while the mill was down and, of course, when they recently reopened it was on the open shop basis. The wage scale now paid in this mill at Howland is as follows: Paper machine tenders $2.25 a day, eight hours a day; back tenders $1.75, third hands $1.50, fourth hands $1.25; mechanics 56c and 52c an hour, nine hours a day; bag mill machine tenders $1.87 a day, nine hours a day; girls, one on each machine, $6 a week; salaried men such as yard foremen and timekeepers, $12 and $16 a week.

Please note, my Union Brothers, that these wages are not paid down South somewhere. They are not paid in the Province of Quebec. They are not paid in China or Porto Rico, but are paid in the State of Maine. These wages are paid to men who formerly carried union cards and drew union wages. Many of these men, when they were working under a union shop complained about paying a small sum in monthly dues. Some of them also asked what good is the union? I have now received their reply to this question. Paper machine tenders in Howland, are now working for far less than what ordinary labor is working for in our union mills.

What good is the union? In the State of Maine, we have unions in Pejepscot, Topsham, Augusta, Madison, Millinocket, East Millinocket and Rumford. Just compare the wages paid in these union mills and the working conditions in these union mills with the non-union paper mills in Maine, and that will furnish a complete and convincing answer to even the most ignorant that the unions are of the greatest protection, both in good times and bad times.

Go to Livermore and Rumford, both mills owned by the International Paper Company, and formerly union mills. Compare the wages and conditions of these mills with the wages and conditions at Millinocket, East Millinocket and Madison. That in itself will furnish a complete answer to the question what good is the union.

I suggest, through the columns of The Maine State Labor News, to union men everywhere to remain loyal to the union during these trying times. There is but one thing the matter with the unions and that is, they are not large enough. The small minority of American wage earners, who are organized have done wonders for themselves and for the unorganized as well.

Let us therefore not ask what good are the unions, but let us put both shoulders to the wheel, all of us, and build up the membership of our unions.

New York State Made Quarter-Million Profit From Convicts

In these times, with 12 millions of citizens walking the streets in all parts of the country, news to the effect that one State alone made a clear profit of a quarter of a million dollars on the work of its convicts, is most astonishing.

According to a report filed by the State Commissioner of Correction in the State of New York, the quarter-million profit was an increase of $41,525 over that of the previous year.

The prison industries are printing and production of brushes, mattress and sheet metal and knitted goods.

About 635 men are employed. Wages paid to the prisoners on the industries during 1931 were $38,235 and $29,739 for 1932. For prison maintenance wages were $26,638 for 1931 as compared to $26,782 in 1932 for maintenance.

The commission made a recommendation that wages be adjusted so that inmates on prison maintenance perform skilful and hard labor might receive wages equal to those paid convicts employed in the industries.

The print shop, which is limited by law to doing work for the State Department of Correction and for penal and State charitable institutions, made a profit of $1,387. The Commission urged that the law be amended so that a "reasonable amount of State printing may be done here."

Organized labor of New York opposes the extension of convict printing proposed by the Commission and will fight the matter vigorously

Will Argue Mooney Case in 'Frisco on March 25th

A communication from the Mooney Defense Committee, read at last Wednesday night's meeting of the C. L. U., announced that Attys. Frank P. Walsh of New York and Leo Gallagher of Los

FRANK P. WALSH

Angeles, will argue, in Department 11 of the Superior Court of California on a motion to try Mooney on an old indictment.

Also told in the communication, all other indictments against Mooney were dismissed by Judicial authority as a result of evidence developed in the re-opening of arguments which, if discussed in court, would convince the general public that Mooney and Billings should never have been brought into court on the plea that they caused the Preparedness Day parade bombing in 1916.

In its request for the adoption of resolutions, the Defense Committee asks that these be forwarded to Judge Lewis H. Ward in San Francisco, to whom a request be made to order the District Attorney to try Mooney, and that he be ordered to have Mooney brought into court to testify in his own behalf at the hearing.

World unemployed total 30,000,000, an International Labor Office Survey shows. "Greater misery and distress than has ever been known in this century", is predicted for this winter.

MASS. COMMISSIONER CALLS FOR DRASTIC LAW TO DEAL WITH "SWEAT-SHOPS"

Says Situation Invites Prompt and Positive Action by Legislature and to Give Thought at Present Session for Passing Mandatory Minimum Wage Law—Says Many Employers Look Upon Present Recommendatory Law As a Joke—Ruinous Competition to High-Class Employers in State.

Boston, Massachusetts, March 11th.—That something besides the present recommendatory minimum wage law is necessary to compel employers to comply with minimum wage decrees in the needle trades, and that the subject of a public statement issued by Edwin S. Smith, Commissioner of Labor and Industries during the week.

"The serious plight of both employers and employes in the needle trades industry in Massachusetts as the result of sweatshop wages points the need of drastic minimum wage legislation here," he said.

The commissioner referred to the low earnings of girl workers in Fall River, New Bedford, Lawrence and other cities, and urged more rigid provisions of the law relating to decrees of the Minimum Wage Commission. At present the names of employers who do not comply with the decrees of the Commission are made public, but there are no prosecutions.

The legislation which the Commission suggests is that contained in the bill filed by Senator William S. Conley of Boston, which would require the labeling of goods made under sweatshop conditions in Massachusetts.

In his statement, Mr. Smith said: "I am in receipt of a message from Gov. Lehman and bolstered by the support of a large number of influential employers in the garment industry, organized labor and social workers, a minimum wage bill with mandatory features is being pressed in the New York Legislature.

Wages Below $6 a Week

"In another factory in February, of 1932, 68.8 per cent of the females employed were receiving less than $10; in December, 1932, the percentage below $10 was 94.7. In still another factory, the girls and women earning under $10 in February, 1932, were 34.8 per cent of the total; last December they constituted 100 per cent. In two men's shirt factories reinvestigated in February, 1933, 61.3 per cent of the women and girls were earning less than $8, as contrasted with 45.6 per cent who were below this figure in February, 1932. In another factory there were 36.1 per cent below $8 this February, as compared with 59.3 per cent in February a year ago. In one factory, 17 girls received less than $6 for a full week's work.

"Wages, such as are being paid in factories of this type, are degrading to the worker, insufficient to provide a decent standard of living and ruinous to the better class of employer in the State who are obliged to compete with these firms and are still trying to maintain decent wages.

"The situation invites prompt and positive action by the Legislature. The bill introduced by Senator Conley of Fall River, which would require the labeling of goods made in Massachusetts sweatshops, ought to be passed. But this is not enough. The Legislature should, in my opinion, give serious thought at this session to passing a mandatory minimum wage law of the type proposed in New York.

Employes Compelled to Apply for Municipal Aid

"Our recommendatory law in Massachusetts has worked on the whole pretty well with the high-grade employer. It is a joke to the operator of a sweatshop. There is good evidence for believing that employes in some of our sweatshops are obliged to receive charitable aid from the community thus subsidizing the employer's wages. This is grossly unfair competition to bring against the manufacturer who is striving hard to pay his employes enough to live on.

"The trouble in Lynn and other shoe centers is indicative of the fact that even in times of depression wages can be forced to a point where the workers will resort to organized protest. To forestall similar situations in other industries, it would be well for the Legislature to do something about our inadequate minimum wage law."

"MAYOR CURLEY" METHOD DEEMED BEST TO ADOPT IN DEALING WITH "CHISELERS" ON PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS

Complaints Brought to Mayor Curley Showed Where Wages of $5 a Day Had Been "Chiseled" Down to as Low as 25 Cents an Hour—If All Executives Followed This Method, "Chiseling" Contractors Would be Out of Luck.

"If all executives were as outspoken and as fearless as Mayor James M. Curley of Boston, contractors on road construction and other public works would find it extremely difficult to do business on a 'chiseling' basis," said one State, while discussing the report of the Legislative Committee at Wednesday night's meeting of the Central Labor Union.

The trouble with leading officials of our State and cities," he said, "is that they are pussy-footing and are apparently fearful lest their actions on behalf of working people may prove displeasing to the employing class."

That which prompted the delegate to refer to Mayor Curley was a story which appeared in a recent issue of The Labor News, quoting the Mayor as having served notice on contractors doing business with the City of Boston that they must live up to their contracts, which provide for the payment of prevailing wage rates.

Mayor Curley, it was said, took the position that a city or State has the right to make its own terms when dealing with contractors, and that if the latter agree to observe the terms of such contracts, it constitutes a validity for which they are held liable.

"Here's a plain, blunt statement," the delegate said, "which, aside from demonstrating a determination to compel contractors to observe the terms of their contracts, also shows Boston's Mayor as keeping in mind the interests of thousands of working people who are dependent upon the city for protection.

"Just so long as State and municipal executives take a resistant attitude concerning so-called 'chiseling' contractors just so long may we expect these will take advantage of present conditions to bring wages down to the starvation point," he said. "We were told tonight that a statement had been made at a hearing to the effect that contractors on road construction have been paying as little as 25 cents an hour, but that through secret agreements with their employes had arranged their payroll reports to show that wages ranging from 75 cents to $1 an hour had been received by them.

"No responsible contractor would bend so low as to practice this kind of deception," he said, "and it is only through such fearless action as that taken by Mayor Curley, that these 'chiselers' in road and other construction work can be put out of commission."

Man don't expect their church to provide for them. They know their fraternal organizations won't. They know when they fail to pay dues and insurance to fraternal organizations, they are dropped. But many feel different about a labor union. They feel it must provide jobs or funds. They expect more of their union than of any other known agency.

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

WALK-OVER

NEW! KANGAROO

WITH MAIN SPRING ARCH

$8.50

Glazed kangaroo, tough yet soft and supple, takes a high polish and is scuff-proof. The resilient Main Spring Arch is absolute assurance of foot comfort for the most strenuous man.

HUTCHINSON'S

WALK-OVER SHOE STORE

PORTLAND, MAINE

THE SERVICE SHOE STORE

Low Prices and Sound Values on

MILLER TIRES

AND GOOD DEPENDABLE

USED TIRES

GUARANTEED TIRE REPAIRS

EXIDE BATTERIES AND COMPLETE BATTERY SERVICE

DYER-KNIGHT, INC.

42 PREBLE ST., PORTLAND, MAINE

COURTESY — SERVICE — RELIABILITY

We Specialize in CAR LUBRICATION

Have You Heard of LUBRIPLATE—the New Metal Plating Grease?

It will save you money — Come in and let us tell you about it!

MAXIM & HERSEY, INC.

289 and 296 FOREST AVENUE

PORTLAND, MAINE

QUALITY MERCHANDISE

at the lowest possible prices every day in the year!

It has been a source of real pride to us that for many years we have enjoyed the confidence and good will of a great many of the people of Portland and Maine.

We are satisfied that present conditions are developing a new understanding—a new sense of values which must bring a store like this and a people like ours into even closer relationship than that which has meant so much to us in the past.

Porteous, Mitchell & Braun Co.

PORTLAND, MAINE

J. E. Palmer Co.

Specialties in Women's Wear

PORTLAND, MAINE

Under the Capitol Dome

(Continued from Page 3)

pressure of industrial striving for maximum productions—regardless of the effect upon the human agency which made that production possible.

Two college professors, Curtis Morrow and Walter Frederick, of Colby, favored the bill on general lines, but objected to certain provisions that they considered meant the dole under the present form. Senator Wilkin, of Androscoggin, declared that the old age pension is the only humane way to care for the aged. He recounted their general impossibility to accumulate sufficient savings for tiding over the later unproductive period of idle agedness.

The Cost

The bill, as at present drawn, would entail an annual expenditure of over $400,000, one-half of which, or $400,000, would have to be supplied by State, several communities. This would allow for a pension of only $171 per person, which Rep. Martin of Bangor considered inadequate. Not less than $240 for each person would suffice, was her view, and this would raise the total amount required to over $1,000,000.

While present conditions may make impossible the enactment of such legislation at this time, the principle of feasibility, justice and economic necessity of old age pensions has been practically admitted. The law is bound to come.

Republican Majority Kills Chances for Repeal Submission

The Republicans control the Legislature—and thereby hangs a tale! It means, that it is going to be hard to get much remedial legislation enacted unless a fair proportion of the dominant party break loose from their old iron partisanship and vote with the Democrats on liberalizing measures.

Governor Brann was elected by the people as an expression of their confidence in his general policies. But, he will have to struggle against the handicap of an opposition party which may not be in accord with many of his views on major questions.

And one of these is prohibition. The Democratic national convention simply said "Scat" to prohibition. The Republican platform on this question was a literal absurdity of words, but with the discernible purpose to hold on to the discernible corpse for dear life or death. On that prohibition for fifty years, the party issue, more than any other, the party in power went down to colossal defeat.

Notwithstanding this fact, it was but recently that the Republican-controlled House killed the Democratic State prohibition resubmission amendment. But 12 Republicans voted with the minority. On the other hand, it is taken for granted that the recommendation of Governor Brann that the salaries of all State workers be sharply reduced will be approved by the Legislature. The saving to the State has been estimated at about $400,000 per annum. Slashes in the low salaries will be avoided wherever possible, the proposed cuts applying to the higher bracket salaries.

Job Insurance or Dole?

"Experience keeps a dear school," said Benjamin Franklin. After many years and much travail and unavailing substitute, it has at last come to be realized that an idle man is a consumer and not a producer. That this condition cannot continue to exist on anything like a large scale without throwing the economic machine out of related by those who control it as to provide in advance for these periodical business depressions. Unemployment reserves would meet the purpose and should be considered as a legitimate charge upon industry itself, not upon the community, was his contention. This is a principle with which labor as a whole will heartily agree.

Health Dept. Head Captiously Opposes Bill of HairDressers

Dr. George H. Coombs, Director of the State Health and Welfare Department, was the single dissenter to the bill to regulate the practice of hairdressing and cosmetics, therapy, at a hearing before the committee on public health in February. He satisfied himself by suggesting equivocal alternatives to those of a word of the bill in certain instances in a way to plainly mark him down as at least unofficially opposed to the proposed legislation.

The bill would require the licensing and regulation of hairdressers and cosmetologists. It would also fix the number of hours of schooling required of an apprentice before obtaining a license as engage in the business. It was supported by a number of active members of the Maine State Hairdressers Association, said to number 400 or more.

Dr. Coombs minimized the value of a health certificate for an operator, saying that "one day's time would make it worthless," in point of liability to sickness. He also desired to have manicurists exempted. As to shaving soaps, which did not have their formula printed on them, the medical man suggested additional barber legislation. As to cosmetics, he would not approve of any such which were without printed formula.

The hearing developed into a battle of wits with the proponents holding their own. The issue will be in doubt in advance of legislative action, but the objections raised by the Health and Welfare Department smacked of captious opposition, rather than any justified objection.

Maine Will Have Convention System on Prohibition Repeal

That Maine still clings to much of its dryness becomes evident, from day to day. The committee on General Relations has sprung into much prominence by reason of having two Prohibition repeal bills on its hands.

The first measure was filed by Senate President Murchie, while the second was introduced by Senator Wilkin of Somerset. Thus favor of the Murchie bill profess to see in the Weeks measure a simple referendum upon the question. In presidential year 21 delegates, elected on three tickets, for, against or unpledged as to repeal. On the other hand, the Murchie bill calls for 175 delegates, 154 of them from legislative classes. It requires them to run undesignated as to party or preference.

In any event, it seems certain that Maine will decide the repeal question by some form of constitutional convention, rather than by a referendum which many claim is the only true and proper way to vote changes in the Federal Constitution.

Small Borrowers Demand Relief From Sky-High Interest Rates

Is 26 per cent per annum a reasonable or unreasonable rate of interest for the use of small sums of money over a limited and stated period of time? In three years' time, at this rate, it can be seen that the principal sum borrowed would be well eaten up.

So, the agitation has come about for a reduction of interest rates on sums of $300 and less from the present rate of three per cent per month, or 36 per cent annually. In opposition, many small loan companies claim that they cannot do business on a lesser rate of interest. They reject the proposal of the two per cent rate, as embraced in the Breen bill, as being unprofitable.

The hearing took place before the Banks and Banking Committee. A similar bill, aiming at the same purpose, failed of passage at the last session of the Legislature.

In the discussion over the merits of the proposed bill, loan shark companies were rapped for their outlandish charges. Representative Mayers of Hallowell, dwelt on this abuse of the loan companies towards their helpless borrowers.

Several bills to amend present laws regulating building and loan associations received consideration. Two such bills, proposing to enable loans to be made of the Federal Home Loan Bank System, received no opposition.

Legislation to Regulate Prison Made Goods

An Act to regulate the sale of convict-made goods is a new before the Maine Legislature and is exciting much keen interest. There are many important social and economic principles involved in the business of creating prison-made goods and afterwards disposing of them.

In Section 1, of the proposed measure, there is an opening flat ban against the sale of such proposed goods upon the "open market," so-called. To quote the language of the bill: "The sale on the open market of this State (Maine) or all goods, wares and merchandise manufactured or mined, wholly or in part by convicts or prisoners, (except prisoners on parole or probation) or in the penal or reform institutions, is hereby prohibited." The Act will take effect on and after July 1, 1933.

Slave Bidding Prohibited

In Section 2, the labor of convicts is specifically regulated to the effect that neither the State nor any of its officers or agencies or any of its subdivisions there shall enter into any contract or other arrangement for the labor or any of the inmates of any of the several penal or reformatory institutions of Maine.

Compensation Payable on Release

A cost accounting system is to be instituted in connection with the manufacture of such prison made goods and penal workers are to receive a portion of the profits of their labor, the same to be paid to their dependents or to themselves upon their final discharge from custody.

Diversity Aimed At

It will be seen that the act seeks to diversify the prison labor so as to avoid its concentration in any one industry. This is intended to avoid a glutting of goods in any one line which might entail competition with free labor on the open market.

Interstate Traffic Prohibited

In Section 4, it is expressly declared that "The exchange of prison products of institutions of this State with the products of any other State, is prohibited."

The Department of Health and Welfare is authorized to make rules and regulations governing the production and distribution of prison-made goods, which are directed to be consumed in the various State penal or benevolent institutions.

The chief supporters of the bill were to Clarence Burgess, legislative agent for

LEWISTON

GAMMON CABINET CO.'S SHOP IN LEWISTON 100 p. c. UNIONIZED AND WORK TURNED OUT WILL BEAR CARPENTERS' UNION LABEL

Forty-five Men Employed, Mostly in Making Store Fixtures and Other Work for W. T. Grant Company, Become Members of Local 407 and Shop Organized By Efforts of Organizer Charles N. Kimball.

Local 407, Carpenters and Joiners of Lewiston, is pleased to announce that the wood workers at the W. H. Gammon Cabinet Works have just been organized 100 per cent, and as soon as the stamp arrives from Carpenters headquarters, all the products of the Gammon Company will bear the union label.

Among the articles manufactured by this company are all store fixtures used by the W. T. Grant Co., which is quite a considerable business in itself, employing normally about 45-wood-workers.

In unionizing this plant, much credit is due Charles N. Kimball, general organizer for the United Brotherhood in this district. Brother Kimball has worked hard for a long time to bring this about and we extend to him our heart-felt thanks.

And to the W. H. Gammon Co., we wish to show our appreciation by giving them our full cooperation and support, feeling certain that they will never regret that their products bear the union label, thus showing to the public that their goods are made under favorable working conditions and by capable workmen.

"Similar, as this event does, when building conditions are quite bad," says D. D. Gould, chairman of the press committee of Local 407, "it is considered quite a boost for our membership and offers no little incentive for continuing our campaign for securing new members, which we are hoping will result in building up our organization to a 100 per cent figure in the Lewiston-Auburn district."

Auxiliary Changes Meeting Nights

We wish at this time to inform the members of Carpenters' Local 407 and Ladies' Auxiliary, that the Auxiliary has changed its meeting nights from the first and third Thursdays to the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Meetings are held at Carpenters' Hall, 31 Lisbon street, Lewiston, at 7:30 p. m.

The Auxiliary is holding very pleasant meetings this winter. At the last meeting, Brother and Sister Hamilton presented a graphophone to the Auxiliary with about 50 records. A rising vote of thanks was extended to them.

Representatives of Trucks, Railroads Argue Rate Regulations

"There is no use talking." The trucks and automobiles have taken away a great and increasing amount from the railroads. Nobody denies or questions that fact. The present question is: 'What can this be allowed to proceed, unregulated, if the railroads are to continue in business?'

So, when the rival representatives of the two competing interests, railroads and trucks, met before the legislative committee on Ways and Bridges and Public Utilities, the cross and counter-claims of both parties furnished much interest to all concerned. The contest waged around the proposed bill to regulate contract carrier motor trucks.

Speaking for the Maine Central Railroad, Attorney Carroll L. Perkins of Waterville, declared that there were three parties in general interest—the railroads, the trucking people, and the general public. He desired an equitable agreement which would be fair to all. Opposed to him was Thomas F. Locke of Biddeford, attorney for the trucking interests, who charged the railroads with subterfuge. A truck salesman hinted at a desire on the part of some proponents of the bill to force the railroads to buy the truckmen out, and thus end the competition.

Atty. Perkins, nothing abashed, methodically proceeded to quote figures showing the steady and progressive decline in railroad earnings attributable to truck competition. He pointedly referred to the declining value of railroad securities held by insurance companies and banks. He termed the bill a regulatory one with the fees only intended to cover cost of administration.

Another speaker, Frank Marshall of Portland, representing the Maine Automobile Association, gave it the endorsement of that agency. He warned against "the sleepy truck driver" as being a terrible road menace. He called attention to the sharp drop in the payroll of the Maine Central Railroad, to the extent of $3,000,000 since 1929. Also, he said that while in normal times the railroads of the country spend $160,000,000 monthly, they are now only spending but one-third of that amount. He pointed out that the railroads do not fear legitimate competition of trucks, but if railroads must be regulated, trucks also should be under the same general law, for the interest of the public.

Complaining that present railroad rates were too high, Rep. Ashby of Fort Fairfield warned the railroads of loss of potato shipments unless cheaper rates were granted.

Legislative Notes

Brothers Henry Butler, president, and Arthur Bechard, secretary, of Painters' Local 541 of Augusta, were present at two hearings held at the State House on February 22. Both favored in favor of the bills providing for unemployment insurance and for the establishment of the 48-hour work week for women and children.

Expressions of appreciation are extended to Howard C. Woodside, former legislative agent for the Maine State Federation of Labor, and President "Phil" Place of the Portland Central Labor Union, for the splendid assistance rendered at all legislative hearings on bills sponsored by the State Federation during the present session of the Legislature.

Representative Benjamin S. Stern, of Biddeford, who took a leading part in the hearings on unemployment insurance, old age pensions and other measures sponsored by the State Federation, is the recipient of expressions of gratitude for the valuable assistance rendered at these hearings.

Representative Stern is listed as an independent Democrat. He is progressive, aggressive and since coming here from his native country, Lithuania, where he was educated, he has been a student of social science, economics, history and literature.

The Legislative Committee's report of "inexpedient to act" on the Old Age Pension bill, came as a distinct shock to all supporters of this humane legislation. This action on the part of the majority members of the committee is strongly rebuked by thousands of people in all walks of life, throughout the State, who had petitioned for favorable consideration. Arguments advanced by Rev. Roy L. Brown of Lewiston, Prof. Breckenridge of Colby College, J. W. Brown of Woolwich, and others, headed strong reasons why the bill should pass. By numerous representatives of Labor and fraternal organizations, it was felt, made an impression on members of the committee that warranted better consideration for this important legislation.

Much disappointment is felt over the action of Representative Marion E. Martin in opposing the old age pension bill. Much of Miss Martin's support from working people in Bangor, to whom she is said to have pledged her support for old age pension legislation.

Perhaps the fact that Miss Martin's parents are well-to-do is looked upon by her as an assurance that she will never be in need of State assistance. This may have a bearing on her lack of sympathy for hundreds of poor unfortunates who, having reached the retirement period in industry, have no alternative but to go to the poorhouse.

Miss Martin, who was the sole opponent at the hearing, argued that "as long as we have to maintain poorhouses in the State, the aged people might as well be left there."

The arguments offered by Prof. Walter Catlin and Albert Abrahamson, at the hearing held before the Committee on Labor on Document No. 562, which provides for the appointment of a commission to consider the necessity and feasibility of adopting a system of unemployment insurance, proved of considerable assistance. A condition that makes paupers of strong, healthy and conscientious workers, they argued, must be remedied and the only way to do this is by State legislation. Other industrial States are giving serious consideration to this subject, and as Maine is forging ahead in her industries there is no reason why this important legislation should not be considered by our Legislature.

Turn for Better Seen in Business

Business for 1933 seems to be booked for improvement. The railroads of the country have always been regarded as a business barometer with regard to the trend of their earnings. Already, reports from some of the leading rail lines for December, 1932, show increased earnings over the corresponding month of the previous year. This marks the first turn of the tide in that regard since 1929.

Word from the railroads, General Motors has a favorable report for sales in January, 1933, in excess of those for the same month in 1932. Sales totaled 82,000 cars, as compared with 74,000 for the previous stated period.

The mild winter weather has adversely affected earnings of mines and consequently the railroads have lost much tonnage which colder weather might have provided. On the other hand, many industries are looked to report better earnings than in 1932.

Uniform Mechanics' Lien Act Submitted to State Branches

President William Green of the American Federation of Labor has sent to State branches copy of a uniform mechanics' lien act, with the request that it be submitted to friends of labor in the legislatures for introduction. If it has not already been introduced.

The act was prepared by the Standard State Mechanics Lien Act Committee of the United States Department of Commerce with the cooperation of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

Stating that there are very few States that have adequate lien laws, Mr. Green wrote that labor is interested in every way in the proposed bill. A representative of the Building Trades Department served on the committee which drafted the bill until his death. Then a representative of the A. F. of L. took his place.

It will be appreciated it, when making purchases from our advertisers you will please mention The Labor News.

Constitutionality of Legislation Affecting 'Yellow Dog' Discussed

Representatives of the Massachusetts State Federation of Labor and friends of Labor legislation were present in large numbers at the hearing held before the Committee on Judiciary last Wednesday, to discuss an amendment passed by Congress in 1921 for curbing abuses under the "Yellow Dog" contract, and designed to meet the objections of the Supreme Court.

Professor James Sheldon, of Boston University, argued for the bill on constitutionality, and after explaining its merits, cited Presidents Roosevelt, Taft and Wilson as having, on several occasions, expressed themselves in favor of legislation to curb abuses to which working people are subjected by employers.

Representative F. C. Nelson Pratt, of Saugus, who introduced the bill, cited a decision of Chief Justice Rugg of the State Supreme Court, to the effect that an advisory opinion is not adjudication.

Legislative Agent Robert J. Watt, of the State Federation, which sponsored the bill, headed the list of representatives of Central bodies and local unions who either spoke or recorded their recommendations in favor of the bill.

The only serious objection against the bill, and one that greatly hurt it, was presented at the hearing who do not know the present attitude of those who make up the comparatively small membership of the Knights of Labor, was presented by Thomas H. Canning, who argued that in all his years he had yet to note an abuse of power by the courts, stating that he would not like to see the right of injunctions denied.

Readers of The Labor News will recall that the Knights of Labor was accused of having furnished moving pictures operators to break strikes in two local theaters several years ago.

1932 Auto Output Lowest Since 1918

Washington, D. C., Mar 10 (ILNS): Production of motor vehicles totaled 1,436,000 units in 1932, the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce reports. This includes passenger cars, trucks and taxis built in U. S. manufacturing plants and in Canadian plants operated under American ownership and direction.

The comparative output for 1931 was 2,472,000 vehicles, while that of 1930 and 1929 was 3,510,000 and 5,622,000 vehicles, respectively.

To find a year in which production was lower than that of 1932, it is necessary to go back to 1918 when 1,171,000 units came from the factories.

WATERVILLE

Commends Sec'y and Local Representatives Who Attended Hearings

By R. E. DAGGETT, President Maine State Federation of Labor

Realizing the fact that organizations affiliated with the State Federation of Labor are especially interested in several bills before the State Legislature, and also the fact that they have practically no opportunity of knowing of the efforts put forth by our Legislative Agent, and in getting these bills favorably considered by the legislative body, I feel it my duty to tell the membership that Brother Burgess has worked very hard and has done everything in his power to further the promotion of the above-mentioned bills.

As to the success or failure of the passage of these bills, I cannot say at this time. However, I feel that he has been able to create a favorable impression.

Legislative representatives of the Street Railway Employes and Electrical Workers of Portland, the Portland Labor Union, Painters and Paper Mill Workers of Augusta, and the Carpenters of Waterville, have also rendered able assistance.

Waterville News Flashes

E. E. Carey has just completed a job at the State Theater. The seating job at the State Theater. The seating job at the State Theater. The seating

FAILURE ON PART OF RAILROADS TO REPAY R. F. C. LOANS MAY MEAN PUBLIC OWNERSHIP, SAYS PRES. GREEN

In Address Before New York Board of Trade, A. F. of L. President, After Submitting Figures Showing Decrease in Purchasing Power of Workers and Increasing Unemployment, Declares 30-Hour Week is Only Solution for Present Conditions.

In an address delivered last Wednesday before the New York Board of Trade, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, chose for his subject: "Modern Behavior in Time of National Emergency." The speaker traced the inseparable connection between reduced wages and correspondingly reduced purchasing power, with its stagnating effect upon industry in general. In this regard, he said:

"It has been a very costly lesson. Many industrial managers are publicly admitting the mistake made, stating that industry has gone too far in its market-destroying policies. They now boldly assert that there cannot be either a revival of trade or economic recovery until buying power has been restored and confidence and faith in the Nation's industrial, economic and financial institutions are re-established.

"The soundness of this character of reasoning is established by the fact that in 1929 the total buying power of wage earners and salaried workers of the Nation totaled $53,252,000,000. It was reduced to $45,503,000,000 in 1930; to $37,741,000,000 in 1931; and down to $28,232,000,000 in 1932. The buying power of the Nation's consuming market in 1929 was $150,020,600,000 less in 1932 than in 1929. If an allowance is made for the reduced prices in manufactured commodities amounting to 22.7 per cent, there would still remain a curtailment of buying power and of the Nation's consuming market amounting to $22,728,000,000.

"These figures represent facts which cannot be controverted. They show that if the Nation is compelled to buy less of manufactured goods there must be a proportional decline in the sale of manufactured products."

"Notwithstanding all the efforts put forth by the Government to preserve and protect our financial institutions, the break-down came. We are now in the midst of financial chaos. Our banking institutions failed to stand the strain, to serve the Nation, to meet credit and commercial needs and to render the service for which they were created, as the most crucial period reached during three or more years of unemployment.

"Naturally the people look to the President, the Chief Executive of the Nation, for leadership and constructive action. In order to strengthen his purpose, to originate policies, to execute them and to chart a course designated to promote economic recovery, all classes of people must cooperate and must rally to the support of the President. Figuratively speaking, we are making war upon the forces which have caused financial collapse and economic chaos and in order to win, for ourselves and posterity, we must unite wholeheartedly and in a common purpose in support of the President of the United States."

Referring to the huge sums which the Government, through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, has loaned to railroads, Mr. Green declared that this might mean the first step in Government ownership of those public utilities. Many people, he declared, believed such loans would never be repaid. Tinkering and tampering with the currency, he deprecated, as being but a temporary palliative. As the late President Green strongly advocated both the five-day week and the six-hour day as being necessary as to the slack in unemployment, stabilize industry, help to restore economic balance. Constructive measures ensuring social justice, must also be adopted, the speaker declared, to assist in the work of recovery.

In conclusion, President Green reiterated the growing conviction that hours and wages must be in proportion to production. Ignoring this elemental fact had led to the present economic breakdown.

Thawing Out Frozen Assets!

Drawn for LABOR by John W. Baer

In the above illustration, Cartoonist Baer has made a happy hit of the prevailing description of "frozen assets." Ordinarily, this means—securities bought, or loans, granted out of friendship or for the sake of a fat commission. The investment having turned out sour, the bank or individual can only wait and whistle 'til the clouds roll by. Lack of judgment or fidelity to trust brings its own penalty.

The bill of Senator Wagner, of New York, which proposes a huge Federal public building construction fund is the handy hot kettle to infuse new life and vigor into the block of ice called "frozen assets." The public confidence in the Government is 100 per cent. It is not a question of ways and means, it is merely using the power of will to use the means at hand.

But, while such public works as Federal highways, bridges and skyways are being considered, why not give some thought to the matter of ships and shipyards? Here is a large and important field of labor which has long been a patient sufferer in this depression. Our Navy is notoriously inferior to what it should be. We need an active shipbuilding program to restore our declining naval prestige. Here is something in which money may be invested to the best of advantage. It will also help the cause of labor and through labor, the community at large, wherever such works are put in operation. Ships helped to win the great World War, and ships must be maintained if we are not to lose the fruits of that costly victory.

PURCHASING POWER OF MASSES MUST KEEP PACE WITH WHATEVER INCREASE IN COMMODITY PRICES MAY OCCUR

"Wage Increases Must Inevitably Follow Currency Inflation," Says President Green, in Statement Issued on Present Banking Situation—Looks to Congress to Take Steps to Control Banking Institutions.

William Green, President of the American Federation of Labor, declared today that in the event commodity prices increase as a result of currency inflation, wage increases must inevitably follow. He said:

"If currency inflation arises out of the collapse of banks and their failure to function in a crisis, Labor will demand that wages shall increase in an amount corresponding to an increase in commodity prices. Such must inevitably follow. No improvement in the distressing conditions could be hoped for or expected if, through some form of currency inflation, the buying power of Labor would remain standardized while commodity prices increased. The purchasing power of the masses of the people must keep pace with whatever increase in commodity prices may occur.

"The closing of banks and the collapse of the Nation's financial institutions will add to the distress of Labor. Working men and women will suffer more. The intense seriousness of the situation, however, calls for a continuation of self-imposed restraint and discipline and the exhibition of that characteristic of courage and patience on the part of Labor which has thus far characterized their conduct under the most trying experiences.

"Labor is willing, anxious and ready to aid in bringing about economic recovery. It must do its part in the great emergency through which the Nation is now passing. No good purpose will be served but instead great injury may be done if, at the moment, Labor would substitute feeling for common sense and ill advised action for sound judgment.

"The demand of Labor, however, is that the law-making bodies of the Nation and those in control of our Government take such steps as may be necessary to control the banking institutions of the Nation, to accord protection to the savings of the masses of the people and to prevent the dissipation of their deposits after they have placed them in the banks of the country in all good faith and confidence. Such legislative action will serve to restore confidence and faith which, for the moment, has been greatly impaired if not altogether destroyed.

"The responsibilities growing out of this terrible experience caused by the failure of the banks of the country rest heavily upon the President of the United States. All classes of people are looking to him for leadership and constructive advice. He deserves the encouragement, support and help of all classes of people, including Labor, in the existing grave emergency. Labor will respond as it has in every instance by giving to the President its full and complete cooperation and support."

N. E. SHOE STRIKES

(Continued from Page 1)

course when aggrieved over wages and working conditions, was fundamental.

Then came the decision to strike, and the question arose as to how their strike was to be carried on. Thus far, the meager funds at their command can take care of the men and women on strike for a short time. But without a solid organization, they are at a great disadvantage, and as a means for carrying on, an appeal to the organized workers of the State may be made.

A telephone message to the general offices of the B. & S. W. U. in Boston, as The Labor News is going to press, brought information that a representative of that organization had made a careful study of the industry in Maine during the past few months and while reporting conditions as deplorable as concerns wages and hours, considered he had found little favorable sentiment among workers to become organized.

The Boot and Shoe Workers of America, Secretary-treasurer Mara said, has its attention directed toward Maine since the Auburn strike early in the year, and has done everything in its power to make the workers employed in shoe shops see the futility of refusing to stop the wheels of manufacturers unless they were strongly organized. This, he said, seemed to have little effect, and the union withdrew its representative.

"However," Mr. Mara said, "we are still watching the situation and feel that can be shown that the workers are sincere in demanding our assistance, arrangements will be made to place our representative in the field."

As has been their custom in shoe and textile strikes during the past two years, the Communists have attended their meetings to Norway, with "Red Mike" Shuiman as their representative. Except to create confusion, they could come to them from a political standpoint if they joined the Communist party, "Red Mike" had little to offer that would smack of immediate relief to the strikers.

Pretty much the same kind of cooperation can be expected from the National Shoe Workers' Association whose representatives are also in the strike area, and who are attempting to form an organization among the strikers. As is well known, this organization is a dual union to the Boot and Shoe Workers; and while successful in having negotiated a partial settlement with Lynn employers, is not in a position to offer constructive measures as to how improved conditions among the shoe workers in Maine may be obtained, except to form an independent organization, which they already have.

Hence, the importance for shoe workers in Norway and other Maine shoe centers to negotiate at once for the formation of a local union. By this means they are not only assured of the assistance of trained officials to advise them, and the protection of a solid organization, but place themselves in line for the moral and financial support of the entire Labor movement of the State.

Men and women employed in the shoe industry have been too prone to accept the glaring and impossible theory adopted by so-called political and industrial upstarts. What is needed at all times is the backing of an organization that is stable and whose theories are confined to the material welfare of its members.

Representatives of dual unions and radical organizations impress upon workers the fact that A. F. of L. unions are too conservative; that it takes them too long to accomplish desired results. They advocate direct action, placing hundreds of workers on the street, but make no provision to care for them, leaving them to depend on the municipality for support.

Just so long as the workers will permit themselves to be led by these irresponsible leaders, just so long must they be prepared to accept the intolerable conditions which usually result from their activities.

Leaders in the Norway shoe strike should take a leaf out of the book which recounts the experiences of other Maine workers who followed the advice of irresponsible leaders, and how they will become satisfied that their activities were welcomed by employers, who entertain a gruesome fear that A. F. of L. unions might at some time make inroads in their industries.

Officials of the Maine State Federation of Labor are closely watching the situation, and will willingly render assistance if the striking shoe workers demonstrate a desire to become organized under the banner of the American Federation of Labor.

It is said the Norway shoe workers have presented demands for a 10 per cent increase and a 54-hour week.

ONLY WAY TO SETTLE

(Continued from Page 1)

men who have their heels on the necks of the workers have their knives at the throats of their fellow employers, who are striving to organize their standing in the business world.

A Matter of Taxation

The second reason why those who do not sympathize with labor, should favor the passage of the 30 hour law is one of taxation, and the inevitable increase in taxes unless some regulatory measure is imposed by the State. This brings me to the question of wages—actual wages. Is there any member of this committee who will defend the payment of $6.00 a week for women and girls employed in our factories, department stores, restaurants and other work places?

"Yes, we have higher wages, and in some instances I know of lower. Weavers who have always been considered amongst the highest paid workers are down to $15.00. Girls and women in the spinning, carding, combing and in bleacheries, are getting $10 a week and in some cases lower, working 54 hours and kept in the mill 55 hours at night. These wages are typical of the average. We have thousands of women and girls receiving under $10.

Starvation Wages

"The men in some of our mills have been beat down to the same level in this war of competition and exploitation. The employers who believe they are successful because they are able to inflict these starvation wages will very soon find out that unless they pay living wages, they will pay increased taxes in order that the State can take care of these industrial victims. In other words, the State will be compelled to subsidize, and supplement the wages paid by industry and trade in order that the worker might secure the necessities of life.

"We have that condition today. Employed workers are forced to appeal for relief from the towns, cities and the State. You gentlemen, as Senators, will be called upon to impose increased taxation because industry has failed to live up to its responsibility.

Confidence in Governor

"Labor, therefore, submits that Senate Bill 87 should be passed by the General Assembly and we feel confident that the Governor will sign the bill. It embodies the careful thought of men and women in the professions, and in all walks of life. The legal provisions have received the approval of such lawyers as Felix Frankfurter, and in recent conferences in New York and Boston, it received the endorsement of a number of States by the representatives sent to the conferences. Here is a splendid opportunity for the State Senate to demonstrate again, as it did on the Unemployment Relief Bill, that the people of the State should take preference over political manipulations.

"The passage will accomplish three objects. First of all, it will provide aid and protection for the oppressed and downtrodden, and throw a safeguard around the women and minors of the State.

"Second, it will abolish the sweatshop, cut-throat competitor, the price cutter and the exploiter of labor.

"Third, it will prevent the inevitable raise in taxes to supplement these miserable wages.

Betterment for All

The provisions of the Act do no one an injustice and will react for the betterment of all. It gives the employers and employes equal representation on the Board, under supervision of the State. It takes nothing for granted, but provides for the machinery of investigation without discrimination to either side. It provides a close and healthy contact between management and workers with an opportunity for consideration of mutual problems. The minimum wage is set in accordance with factual evidence, recognizing that wages can only come from profits, and a sick Industry must receive the support of all concerned.

"There was a time when employers resented any interference or regulation from without. They reserved the right to practice their own business methods even to the limit of expression. The investment of capital was their attitude, but in the majority of cases, the secrecy of management has proved a boomerang, and there is a widespread clamor for governmental regulation to save the industry. Commodity prices, and raw material, are down to the lowest level, and until values are restored, business will not revive.

"There are several things Government can do to assist; one of them is the adoption of minimum wage legislation. Labor asks you to do so."

ORGANIZED LABOR

(Continued from Page 1)

reasons to abandon the historic democratic policy. The American Federation of Labor will not abandon this policy of non-recognition. We shall continue to fight the alliance of irresponsible radicals and self-seeking capitalists on this issue."

In a letter to Bainbridge Colby, Secretary of State in the Wilson Administration, Wood asks Colby if he sees any reason for reversing the policy of the United States toward Russia in part to the former Secretary of State:

"We (the A. F. of L.) have kept steadily in mind the basic fact clearly expressed in your note, but lost sight of now in many quarters and even misrepresented, that in taking its position the United States clearly disclaimed any intention to interfere in the internal administration of Russia or to express a judgment, adverse or otherwise, upon any social or economic theory which Russia might see fit to embrace or apply in the government of the Russian people.

"As you stated in your note, the policy rests upon a wholly different set of facts, viz—the essential and still apparent hostility of Russia to the Government of the United States and the principles upon which it is founded.

"You stood close to Woodrow Wilson at the time this policy was enunciated. It is our opinion that the country would like to hear from you, as from no one else, on this great question."

"Nothing New" on Red Recognition

Bainbridge Colby, former secretary of state who officially stated the American refusal to recognize the Soviet Russia, declared today that nothing had since happened to justify a change in policy.

"Our refusal was predicated upon the fact that Russia was an enemy state," he said.

"Despite denials and the concealments and disguises employed by as subtle a propaganda as the world has ever seen, this enmity continues to be the foundation of Soviet foreign policy." This was his reply to Matthew Woll, vice president of the American Federation of Labor, who had asked if there were any "new facts."

HEAD OF GREAT BANK

(Continued from Page 1)

agreed to the indictment by offering proposals for its undoing.

Out of the New York banking combination assailed by Frey has come the lead and the direction in the great wage reduction campaign. This machine could dictate policies because of the interlocking control and that is what it has done. Aldrich leaves no loophole. He does not propose that commercial banks shall withdraw their directors from commercial enterprises. Aside from that, his sweeping admissions agree to the Frey indictment point by point. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department, has scored a tremendous and outstanding victory in the Aldrich admissions, because Aldrich is one of the commanders of the banking world.

A. F. OF L. PROCLAIMS

(Continued from Page 1)

ishable products are put to good use.

Production of Goods by Federal Aid

The A. F. of L. plan also goes a step further. It proposes that the Government should start actual production of goods and necessities of life, such as food, shoes, textiles clothes, using Federal resources to underwrite loans when necessary. Surveys of local needs would establish the extent of production necessary; production could be allotted and loans made on the basis of production and employment. As men are taken back to work and buying power is restored, business will gradually right itself and Federal support could then be withdrawn. The mechanisms to carry out such a plan are at hand in local agencies of government, trade and labor. It remains for the Federal Government to marshal the forces in this war against depression as against a foreign enemy. Otherwise, the results will be worse than that of a real war of invasion.

Why No Barter Mart in Worcester?

Here is something for Worcester to seriously consider. Why cannot there be a barter exchange here? All that is needed is a central place of deposit for such goods as may be brought in for trade. Is there no merchant or real estate owner in this city who is public-spirited enough to offer the free use of such a place? Let us assume that it is for their own manifest interest to get the wheels of trade moving and moving soon. Otherwise, they will be eaten up with taxes which must mount in proportion to the rising mountain of welfare relief requirements.

Idle Labor Ruinous in Effect

Consider the money loss of 12,000,000 idle persons. If such persons earned but $3 a day, that is $36,000,000 in lost labor each 24 hours. How long can any country, however rich, stand this drain? How long can the employed continue to support this vast army of non-producers? Nothing but work or ruin looms ahead? Which shall it be?

The proposal of the Federation to set idle men to work producing goods and the necessities of life "for their own local consumption" at least, is the veriest of common sense proposals. The great wonder is that it has not been done long ago. Does not everybody know that idle people must be fed, clad and sheltered—at the expense of somebody, somewhere—for which taxes must be levied and paid, even at a sheriff's sale?

New England, with its ocean front and manifold industries, should lead the van in constructive effort. Put our idle labor to work to help to support themselves. That is vital common-sense. Anything else is ruin and bankruptcy. The whole latter proposal revolves around making use of idle labor in exchange for the necessities of life, rather than to allow labor to perish in idleness while taxes to support those unemployed masses threaten to engulf and crush everything in the social, economic and governmental order.

Let New England act, and let Worcester and Massachusetts lead New England.

LABOR QUERIES

Questions and Answers on Labor: What It Has Done; Where It Stands on Problems of the Day; Its Aims and Program; Who's Who in the Ranks of the Organized Toilers, etc., etc.

Q—What union is waging an intensive organization drive from March 1 to May 31 of this year?

A—The Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Beverage Dispensers' International Alliance.

? ? ?

Q—Is Frances Perkins, new Secretary of Labor, a member of a trade union?

A.—Not as far as known.

? ? ?

Q—What was the first eight-hour day recorded in American history?

A—The eight-hour day initiated by the Federal Government in the Charleston Navy Yard in 1842.

? ? ?

Q—When did England begin to legislate for the protection of child workers?

A—In 1802, the English Parliament found it necessary to enact a law prohibiting the employment of children on Sundays and limiting their work-week to 72 hours.

? ? ?

Q—Are workers protected by legislation against the dangers of lead poisoning in the United States?

A.—The Women's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, says that comparatively few States have adequate legislation for the protection of workers from lead poisoning in industrial processes.

? ? ?

Q—A says Samuel Gompers came to the United States during the Civil War. B says he did not. Which is right?

A—A is right. Gompers landed at Castle Garden, New York City, on July 29, 1863. He was then 13 years old.

? ? ?

Q—Who is Max Kalish?

A.—He is a sculptor, much of whose work portrays American workers. "The Spirit of American Labor," reproduced in the February "American Federationist," is one of his best known pieces.

? ? ?

Q—Have unemployment insurance systems in Erope survived the depression?

A—Yes. They have carried on "long" the depression, though changes have been necessary in some of the systems to meet the heavy demands made by the great increase in the number of unemployed.

? ? ?

Q—Are anti-injunction bills being pushed in many States?

A—According to a recent report, such bills are being pressed in most of the 38 States whose legislatures are meeting.

? ? ?

Q—I belong to none of the nationally organized trades and yet I believe I should belong to a union. What can I do?

A—Workers without national classification in already organized trades may join local unions, known as federal unions, directly affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. If enough such unions are formed in any given line, they may then secure a national charter. Many national unions have begun that way. To proceed further, write to Frank Morrison, secretary, American Federation of Labor, Washington, D. C.

? ? ?

Q—Who sets wages for mechanics employed by the Navy?

A—Naval wage boards gather information as to the wages prevailing in the districts where naval Navy wages for mechanics are fixed on the basis of these findings. Rates once fixed are not disturbed until the wage boards produce new findings.

? ? ?

Q—I hear about the Samuel Gompers Memorial. What will be the nature of it?

A—It will be a monument, of massive proportions, erected out to sculpture the idealism of labor. It will be erected in Washington, and will be dedicated during the next A. F. of L. convention.

* * *

Q—Who has served longest as secretary of a labor body?

A—The question has never been decided but the honor is claimed for Frank J. Weber, who was recently elected for his 21st consecutive term as general secretary of the Federated Trades Council, Milwaukee.

Q—Did the Communists direct the big demonstration held recently in London to protest against the government's unemployment policy?

A—No. The demonstration was held under the direction of the British labor movement.

Q—What union organizer was once tried on a treason charge?

A—Arthur Garland, vice president of the West Virginia State Federation of Labor and organizer for the United Mine Workers of America. He was tried in Charlestown, W. Va., for "treason" because of his activity in organizing the miners and was, of course, acquitted.

To Probe Depreciated Currency as This Affects Pulp Industry

Recent press despatches from Washington announced that the Senate has passed a resolution instructing the Tariff Commission to investigate the effect of depreciated currencies of foreign countries in competition with the wood-pulp industry of the United States.

The resolution was introduced by Senator Dill of Washington and met with no objection.

It directs the commission to investigate the competitive conditions of the industry particularly in relation to pulp, timber, pulpwood and mechanical and chemical wood pulp produced in Canada, Sweden, Finland and Norway. The Commission is authorized to use data and findings of the United States Conservation Board which has conducted a complete survey of the domestic pulp business during the past few years.

The Tariff Commission already has much of this material, Dill told the Senate, but it needs to be brought up to date.

Wyoming Curbs Injunctive Writ

Cheyenne, Wyo., Mar. 10 (ILNS).—The Wyoming Legislature has just adopted a law to curb powers of the State courts to issue injunctions in labor disputes. The new statute is in line with the law passed by Congress in 1932 which applies to Federal courts. Favorable action by the Wyoming legislators followed a campaign by the State Federation of Labor and the National Committee on Labor Injunctions.

The Wyoming measure prohibits injunctions interfering with the right of workers to organize, to bargain collectively, to strike, meet, and picket.

It outlaws "yellow dog" contracts under which workers have been coerced into agreeing not to join unions. It provides that injunctions shall not be issued without hearing both sides, and for jury trials for contempts committed outside of court.

Prominent New York Lawyer Urges Public Ownership of Railroads

Los Angeles, Calif., Mar. 10 (AFL).—Government ownership and operation of the railroads was urged as the best solution of the railroad problem by Samuel Untermeyer of New York at a address here before the University Club.

"It should be possible to acquire the roads at this time," he said, "with a bill of $20,000,000,000 which is at least $3,000,000,000 above their value based upon present market quotations. It is believed above what the Interstate Commerce Commission could be likely to appraise their physical value based on the reduced valuation of the average of the last few years."

Mr. Untermeyer vigorously condemned the outlandish salaries paid railroad executives and placed ample authority on the shoulders of a large portion of the difficulties in which the railroad owners find themselves.

"That probably largely accounts for the failure thus far to make more substantial progress toward consolidating the roads under the transportation Act. Their interest, supported by the banks to whom they largely owe their positions, is certainly to be a factor in opposition to Government ownership, although above all executives will not suffer from such a change of ownership, with the possible exception of the unduly high salaries now received.

"Not the least advantage of Government ownership," he continued, "will be the scrapping of the fallacy of applying the anti-trust laws to a natural regulated monopoly such as the railroads. It is as absurd as the economic fallacy involved in the application of those laws to our natural resources. We should end the whole fiasco at the same time."

THE LABOR NEWS, 50c A YEAR

Owen Moore's

Is the Kind of a Store Where Shopping is a Pleasure

Where QUALITY and STYLE combined with Reasonable Prices and Helpful Service Make for Complete Satisfaction